Bengaluru Wednesday, October 29, 2025 Pages 16 Vol 78 No 298 ₹7

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DH

DECCAN HERALD

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Amid RSS row, HC stays govt order on use of public spaces

Says order takes away rights under chapter III of Constitution

AMBARISH B
BENGALURU, DHNS

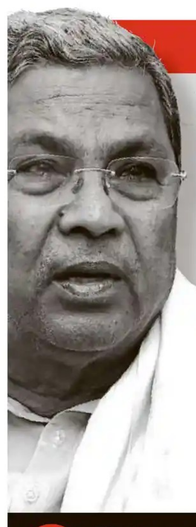
In a setback to the state government, the Dharwad bench of the Karnataka High Court on Tuesday stayed till Nov 17 a controversial government order that banned congregation of more than 10 persons at any place maintained by the government.

In his interim order, Justice M Nagaprasanna observed the order takes away the rights conferred upon citizens under chapter III of the Constitution.

The order dated October 18, 2025, was issued close on the heels of the RSS proposing to take out route marches across the state to commemorate its centenary celebrations.

The order, issued by the Home Department, requires prior permission for any gathering of more than 10 persons on properties maintained by the state government, including schools, colleges, playgrounds, parks, roads and water bodies.

These premises include the ones managed by local authority or department, boards, corporation, the order said, adding congregation of more than 10 people in violation of the order could also be penalised under BNS.



Blow to Siddu govt

- Order issued on Oct 18 requires permission for any gathering of more than 10 people on properties maintained by govt
- Congregation in violation of the order could also be penalised under BNS
- High Court says parks and roads vest in local authorities under two other statutes
- Provisions under Karnataka Police Act already regulate the conduct, behaviour of persons constituting assemblies and processions
- Fundamental rights cannot be curtailed by executive orders. Article 13(2) of Constitution holds a bar against such encroachment

"The impugned Government Order runs contrary to Article 13(2) and, takes away the fundamental right under Article 19(1)(a) and (b). Allowing it to operate would prima facie mean to permit liberty granted to citizens under Articles 19(1)(a) and (b) to be taken away by an executive order

-JUSTICE NAGAPRASANNA

Will challenge order: CM

The government will challenge the High Court's interim order staying an order requiring prior permission to use public places, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on Tuesday. The Opposition BJP welcomed the interim stay, hailing it as "protection of civil rights". Page 4

No consensus on RSS march

The peace meeting, convened by the district administration in Kalaburagi on Tuesday, failed to reach any consensus on granting permission for the route march proposed by the RSS and rallies by nine other organisations in Chittapur on November 2. Details on Page 4

The order, which was seen as an attempt to curb the route marches of the RSS, was challenged by two organisations from Hubballi — Punashcetana Seva Samsthe and We Care Foundation — and two individuals: Rajeev Malhar Patil Kulkarni from Dharwad and Uma Satyajit Chavan from Belagavi.

▸ HC stays, Page 5

Dy CM firm on tunnel, trashes MP's alternatives to project

22 tunnel ramps will create new traffic bottlenecks: Surya

BENGALURU, DHNS

TUNNEL TANGLE

The proposed tunnel road could worsen congestion rather than ease it, Bangalore South MP Tejasvi Surya warned on Tuesday, saying the plan of providing 22 entry and exit ramps along the 16.75-km corridor would merely shift the traffic jams to newer locations across the city.

Surya told reporters after a meeting with Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, "When the new Hebbal flyover loop opened, the traffic jam just moved to CBI Junction. The same happened when the double-decker flyover at Silk Board was inaugurated, the bottleneck shifted to Ragigudda. With 22 ramps planned for this tunnel, the government will be repeating the same mistake on a much larger scale," he said.

Surya argued that the Rs 40,000-crore tunnel road, stretching 30 km to 35 km, would benefit only a small percentage of car users who can afford to pay Rs 650 as toll for a round trip. In contrast, a metro ride for the same distance costs just Rs 50, he said.

▸ Surya, Page 5

No tree felling, says govt, Page 2

Bengaluru needs sustainable transport solutions like metro, suburban rail and more buses
- TEJASVI SURYA, Bangalore South MP

We can't stop people from using cars, says DKS

BENGALURU, DHNS

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Tuesday stuck to the government's decision on building a 16.75-km tunnel road between Hebbal and Central Silk Board, stating that the project is necessary as new vehicles are entering the roads every day. He also said that "no alternative solutions" were found in the suggestions made by Bangalore South MP Tejasvi Surya to ease the city's traffic congestion.

"How many people commute by buses? Now, husband and wife want to travel in their own vehicles. They also send their children to school by private transport. Families are rejecting proposals if the groom does not have a car. This is the social reality that the MP is not aware of," Shivakumar said, defending the tunnel project.

The MP, he said, has given suggestions to increase the metro and suburban network. "I am completely in favour of these projects but the Centre should also increase its contribution. Money is needed to do any project. You can't get relief from tweets and criticisms alone," he said.

He also challenged all four MPs to appeal to their constituents to stop using cars and shift to metro and bus transport.

▸ DKS, Page 5

Families are rejecting proposals if the groom does not have a car. This is the social reality that the MP is not aware of
- D K SHIVAKUMAR, Deputy Chief Minister

Liquor ban review, free power in I.N.D.I.A Bihar poll manifesto

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The I.N.D.I.A bloc on Tuesday unveiled its manifesto for the Bihar Assembly elections, promising a review of the liquor ban and providing relief to Dalits and the poor jailed for violating prohibition laws and government jobs to a member of every family.

The 32-page 'Bihar ka Tejashwi Pran' (Tejashwi's Resolve), which was released in Patna, also promised Rs 2,500 monthly allowance for women, 200 units of free power and cooking gas at Rs 500 for poor households and a law to prevent atrocities against Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs). IT parks, SEZs, dairy and agro-based industries, an education city, food processing units, new and renewable energy projects and five new expressways in the state were among other promises in the manifesto.

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav releases I.N.D.I.A bloc's manifesto in Patna on Tuesday. PTI

RJD leader and the bloc's chief ministerial face Tejashwi Yadav said people of Bihar want a "crime-free and scam-free regime" while expressing hope that the voters would teach the NDA a lesson in the polls.

▸ Manifesto, Page 5

Rains & winds pummel Andhra as Montha makes landfall

HYDERABAD, DHNS

Severe cyclonic storm Montha made landfall in Kakinada district's Antarvedipalem on Tuesday night, whipping Andhra Pradesh with torrential rains and powerful winds that brought down trees, submerged crops and caused massive flooding.

According to the IMD, the landfall process was expected to last four to five hours. The cyclone was packing winds of 90–100 kmph, gusting up to 110 kmph.

The storm will continue to move north-northwestwards and cross Andhra Pradesh coast between Machilipatnam and Kalingapatnam around Kakinada during next 3-4 hours. A woman died at Makanagudem village in Konaseema district as an uprooted palmyra tree fell on her due to gale-force winds, PTI reported.

Since morning, heavy to very heavy rainfall has lashed Kakinada, Machilipatnam, Krishna, West Godavari, Konaseema, Bapatla, Prakasam, Nellore and parts of Rayalaseema.

An eight-kilometre stretch of the beach road between Kakinada and Uppada has suffered significant damage, while several other roads remain inundated.

Flight services to and from Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada airports were suspended on Tuesday. Nearly 30–32 domestic and international flights were cancelled in Vizag, while around 16 flights were cancelled at Vijayawada airport.

▸ Cyclone, Page 5

High waves caused by severe cyclonic storm Montha lash the shore in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday. PTI

8th pay panel: Centre approves terms of reference

NEW DELHI, DHNS: There is some good news for central government employees.

The Union Cabinet on Tuesday approved the terms of reference of the 8th Central Pay Commission, whose recommendation will impact the salaries of around 50 lakh central government employees, including defence services personnel, and 69 lakh pensioners.

"The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, today approved the Terms of Reference of 8th Central Pay Commission," Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw told reporters.

The commission will be headed by former Supreme Court judge Ranjana Prakash Desai and will have one part-time member in IIM (Bangalore) Professor Pulak Ghosh, while Petroleum Secretary Pankaj Jain will be the Member Secretary.

The commission will examine and recommend changes in salaries and other benefits of central government employees. It will submit its final report in 18 months and before that it is likely to submit an interim report. The recommendations of the commission are likely to be effective from January 1, 2026.

The pay commission announcement comes ahead of Bihar state elections, which will be held between November 6 and November 11.

According to the government, the 8th CPC would have to keep several factors in mind while coming up with its recommendations.

HAL, Russian firm sign MoU for civil aircraft

NEW DELHI, DHNS: State-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd has signed a memorandum of understanding with a Russian aviation major for commercial production of a civil aircraft that may be in demand in future with the expansion of regional connectivity schemes in the growing Indian civil aviation market.

According to the pact signed with United Air Corporation, Moscow on Monday, the Bengaluru-based company will manufacture SJ-100, a twin-engine, narrow-body aircraft, for domestic customers.

Over 200 of these aircraft have been produced and are being operated by more than 16 commercial airline operators worldwide. "SJ-100 will be the game changer for short-haul connectivity under the UDAN scheme in India," HAL said in a statement.

The MoU was signed by Prabhat Ranjan from HAL and Oleg Bogomolov from UAC in the presence of HAL CMD D K Sunil and Vadim Badekha, director general, UAC.

It is estimated that in the next 10 years, Indian aviation will require over 200 jets in this category for regional connectivity and an additional 350 aircraft for the Indian Ocean region to serve nearby international tourist destinations.

The aircraft has a maximum seating capacity of 103 and a range of over 3,500 km.

Sources said HAL and UAC will take more time to draft the final agreement. Also, the location for the new assembly line has not been finalised.

"The manufacturing of the SJ-100 aircraft marks the beginning of a new chapter in the Indian aviation industry," HAL said.

FESTIVE FLOAT

People cover the holy River Yamuna with sarees during 'Chunari Manorath' festival, in Mathura in Uttar Pradesh on Tuesday. PTI

Quickly

600 constables get peak caps

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar and Home Minister Parameshwara distributed peak caps to police personnel at a ceremony held at the Vidhana Soudha on Tuesday. While 600 constables received these caps on Tuesday, a senior police officer said 83,000-odd police constables would get them in the next two to three months. Details on Page 5

Delhi conducts cloud seeding trials after 53 years

After a gap of 53 years, Delhi conducted cloud seeding trials on Tuesday to induce artificial rain in the national capital amid surging pollution levels, even as the weather department did not record any traces of rainfall till evening. Details on Page 8

Cong SC/ST leaders plan for Dalit convention

SC and ST leaders in the governing Congress are planning a big Dalit convention, which could become a show of strength, as part of the 'Ahinda' strategy, for Chief Minister Siddaramaiah amid uncertainty over his tenure. G Parameshwara and Dr HC Mahadevappa held a closed-door meeting over breakfast on Tuesday morning. Details on Page 5

Amazon to lay off 14k staff

E-commerce giant Amazon will cut about 14,000 corporate jobs as the company makes organisational changes, mainly driven by the adoption of artificial intelligence. Employees have begun receiving emails starting Tuesday. Details on Page 12

OpenAI to offer ChatGPT Go for free in India

OpenAI will offer its ChatGPT Go subscription free to users in India for one year starting November 4, the startup said on Tuesday, as it seeks to boost adoption in its second-largest market. The plan, which was first launched in India in August, is OpenAI's most affordable offering and is currently priced at Rs 399 per month. Details on Page 12

WORLD STROKE DAY

Docs see increase in stroke cases among youngsters

DH SPECIAL

SNEHA RAMESH
BENGALURU, DHNS

The number of youngsters reporting at hospitals with symptoms and incidents of stroke has increased substantially over the last five years.

Stroke, which was once perceived to affect only elders, is now being widely observed among people in their thirties and forties.

DH spoke to around eight hospitals in the city where doctors observed (according to the data they recorded) that youngsters now account for close to 15% to 20% of all the stroke cases as against 10% five years ago.

Preventing strokes

- Regular screening for blood pressure, blood sugar, and cholesterol
- Avoid smoking, alcohol and drug abuse
- Prioritise regular sleep and exercise
- Break up sitting: get up 3–5 minutes every 30–60 minutes (walk, stretch)

Surprisingly, doctors who have been observing the rise in cases year-on-year have also seen that 1%-2% of stroke cases are among patients less than the age of 30.

"In recent years, we have witnessed a troubling shift: strokes are no longer confined to the elderly. In urban centres like Bengaluru, it has become increasingly common to see adults in their thirties and early forties presenting with cerebral infarcts or haemorrhages," said Dr Avinash Kulkarni, consultant neurologist at a well-known hospital in Kengeri.

Sedentary lifestyle, stress, smoking and such lifestyle changes have resulted in many youngsters developing hypertension, diabetes and such diseases early and this is one of the main causes for increase in incidents of stroke, doctors said.

"The increase is mostly linked to rising prevalence of traditional vascular risk factors in younger adults: hypertension, obesity, diabetes, high cholesterol, smoking, sleep problems (inadequate sleep and sleep apnea), and drug abuse," said Dr Kumar.

Studies have also observed a similar trend. "A new study published in the journal JAMA showed a 67% rise in stroke incidence in people under 55," said Dr Shiva Kumar R, head and senior consultant - Neurology at a hospital on Sarjapur Road.

▸ Stroke cases, Page 5

KSRTC launches B'luru-Pavagada Rajahamsa bus

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) has introduced a Rajahamsa Executive bus service between Bengaluru and Pavagada via Madhugiri.

The service departs from Bengaluru at 8 am and reaches Pavagada at 11.30 am. The return journey starts at 12.30 pm and reaches Bengaluru at 4 pm. The fare is Rs 262, according to the KSRTC.

Four more trips for Yelahanka–Peenya non-AC bus service

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) has added four more trips to the non-AC bus service from Yelahanka to Peenya 2nd Stage via Singapura Layout, Kuvempunagar, Gangamma Circle and Jalahalli Cross.

The bus service will depart from Yelahanka at 7.25 am and 8.10 am, and from Peenya 2nd Stage at 4.55 pm and 5.45 pm.

Cyclone Montha: Train services cancelled

BENGALURU, DHNS: The railways has cancelled the following trains due to Cyclone Montha:

Oct 29: Train number 17235 SMVT Bengaluru-Nagercoil Express.

Oct 30: Train number 17236 Nagercoil-SMVT Bengaluru Daily Express.

Oct 31: Train number 17209 SMVT Bengaluru-Kakinada Town Seshadri Daily Express.

Train run extended

Train numbers 06261/06262 Yeshwantpur–Muzaffarpur–Bengaluru Cantonment Express Special will run for six more trips in each direction.

Train number 06261 will operate on Wednesdays, from October 29 to December 3. Earlier, it was scheduled to run up to October 22.

Train number 06262 will operate on Fridays, from October 31 to December 5. Earlier, it was scheduled to run up to October 24.

Train number 06262 will arrive at Bengaluru Cantonment at 7.30 am instead of 6.30 am.

No tree felling inside Lalbagh till next hearing, govt tells HC

Comes during PIL hearing on 16.7-km tunnel road project

BENGALURU, DHNS

The state government on Tuesday told the Karnataka High Court that no trees will be cut inside Lalbagh Botanical Garden for the proposed 16.7-km Bangalore Twin Tunnel Road project until the next hearing.

TUNNEL TANGLE

The assurance came during a hearing on public interest litigations (PILs).

A division bench of Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice CM Poonacha took the government's submission on record and adjourned the matter to December 9.

The court was hearing petitions filed by Adikesavalu Ravindra and theatre personality Prakash Belawadi, who have questioned the July 14, 2025, tender notification issued by the state government and the BBMP (now Greater Bengaluru Authority).

Sections of Lalbagh taped off for the proposed tunnel road. DH FILE PHOTO

On October 25, the bench had asked the government to clarify if any proposal existed to cut trees in Lalbagh as feared by the petitioners.

Advocate General Shashikiran Shetty told the court there is no such proposal. However, petitioners' advocates, including Bangalore South MP Tejasvi Surya and DR Ravi Shankar, pointed out that tenders have already been called, even as the project remains on paper.

The division bench, noting the government's assurance, posted the matter for further hearing on December 9 and directed the state and other respondents to file their objections.

One petition alleges that about 6.5 acres inside Lalbagh have been earmarked for the project, threatening numerous trees and a protected rock formation. Petitioners also cited an expert committee report from May 2025, which warned of environmental risks and procedural lapses. The report was allegedly withheld from the public before the tender process began.

Another petition claims the authorities did not seek approval from the Bengaluru Metropolitan Land Transport Authority or Planning Committee, rendering the project legally questionable.

Govt defends B'luru Business Corridor, says win-win for farmers

5 compensation options — a first for any state project

BENGALURU, DHNS

A day after some farmers raised objections to the compensation finalised by the government, officials maintained that the proposed Bengaluru Business Corridor (BBC) would benefit both landowners and the city.

LK Atheeq, chairman of Bengaluru Business Corridor Ltd, the special purpose vehicle implementing the 74-km project, said the government has offered five different compensation options — a first for any state project.

These will be presented to farmers in November.

"Only after that can we know whether farmers accept or reject them," he said, dismissing claims that all options had already been rejected.

The project requires 2,418 acres spread across 2,584 survey numbers, affecting nearly 5,000 families, many losing part or all of their holdings.

Responding to demands for compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in the Land Acquisition Act, 2013, Atheeq said the state is offering twice the guidance value (GV) in urban areas and three times the GV in rural areas.

He admitted that GVs are often undervalued, but said sale deeds in recent years are based on these figures.

"That's why we offer two or three times the GV to balance the gap between guidance and market values," he said.

Farmers not satisfied with cash offers can opt for developed commercial or residential plots, which are likely to appreciate once the corridor is built. "Unlike cash, real estate appreciates over time," Atheeq noted.

Farmers will also have the option of Transferable Development Rights (TDRs) issued at urban land guidance values, significantly higher than agricultural rates. "Written award notices with detailed calculations will be shared soon," he said.

Calling the project a "win-win", Atheeq said it would decongest North Bengaluru and unlock value for farmers whose lands have been stuck in limbo for two decades.

"About 70 per cent of landowners are losing only part of their land, and the remaining portions are expected to appreciate once service roads and infrastructure are developed," he added.

LK ATHEEQ
Chairman of Bengaluru Business Corridor Ltd

"About 70 per cent of landowners are losing only part of their land, and the remaining portions are expected to appreciate once service roads and infrastructure are developed.

Stepfather smothers seven-year-old girl to death

BENGALURU, DHNS: Kumbalgodu police have arrested a 34-year-old man for allegedly killing his seven-year-old stepdaughter.

The accused, Darshan, a resident of Kannika Layout, had smothered the child, Siri, at their home four days ago and was absconding.

A senior officer said that based on a complaint from the child's mother, Shilpa, police launched a hunt and arrested Darshan on Monday.

Shilpa had married Darshan after her first husband's death. While Darshan worked for a retail marketing company in Anekal, Shilpa was employed with a private firm as an exterior designer. Initially, Darshan treated Siri well, but later, began resenting her as she came in the way of his time with Shilpa. The tension led to frequent quarrels between the couple.

On October 24 evening, while Shilpa was at work, Siri, who had returned from school, was standing near a shop when Darshan called her home. She refused, saying he often beat her. Enraged and humiliated, he dragged her home, assaulted her, and smothered her to death.

He then cleaned the bloodstains and waited for Shilpa to return. When she found her daughter unresponsive and questioned him, Darshan locked her inside a room and fled to his native place in Tumakuru. Police tracked him after learning that he had left his bike at a friend's house in Madanayakanahalli and was planning to collect it.

He was arrested and taken into custody.

Fraudsters trick bizman into paying Rs 1.32 cr over 'PFI links'

PRAJWAL D'SOUZA
BENGALURU, DHNS

Using a fake video showing people being beaten, fraudsters, posing as law enforcement officers, duped a 56-year-old Bengaluru businessman of Rs 1.32 crore.

DIGITAL DACOITS

The victim, Sitaram R (name changed) from Banaswadi, was accused of supporting the banned Popular Front of India (PFI) and funding terror activities.

At 10.38 am on October 8, he received a call from a person claiming to be from the Mumbai police's 'Enforce Department', a fictitious agency. The impersonator accused him of money laundering and sharing illegal videos.

Sitaram was told that a person named OM Abdul Salam had been raided and police had found a Canara Bank debit card issued in Sitaram's name, allegedly linked to PFI and terror activities.

The caller told Sitaram that to get out of the case, he had to transfer money to an account. He was assured that the amount would be returned after a few days following verification. Sitaram was also threatened that all his assets would be frozen.

The fraudster used phrases like "national secret" and ordered Sitaram not to inform anyone, including his wife, about the incident or face arrest.

"The Enforce Department sent a video showing people being taken into custody and beaten up," the FIR stated.

"This made my mind totally numb and prevented me from conveying this message to my near and dear ones. I was forced to make the payment to the department by RTGS from my current and savings bank accounts."

Between October 8 and 16, Sitaram made six transfers totalling Rs 1.32 crore, including one of Rs 52 lakh.

The FIR was registered on October 25 after the fraudsters stopped contacting him. A probe is underway, police said.

Three arrested after missing girl dies in road accident

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 16-year-old girl, who had been reported missing, died in a road accident in Hoskote on the outskirts of Bengaluru.

The incident, which occurred on October 24, came to light on Tuesday.

Police said the girl's father, a labourer, filed a complaint at the Bannerghatta police station on October 24 after his daughter, who left for school at 9.30 am, did not return home.

The FIR stated that she had boarded a bus, but never reached her class.

The father also told the police he had heard her speaking on the phone with a boy and suspected she may have gone with him.

"It was learnt later that the girl died in a road accident," a police officer said.

Police have arrested three people who were with the girl at the time, booking them under provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Pocso) Act. Investigation is ongoing.

ANTI-DRUG DRIVE

Representative samples of narcotic substances, including MDMA, opium and heroin, displayed during the launch of the Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) at the Vidhana Soudha on Tuesday. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

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Man kills neighbour over abusing mother

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 26-year-old man was arrested for allegedly killing his neighbour, who had reportedly abused his mother, police said.

The Jnanabharathi police arrested Karthik, 26, on Tuesday and booked him for the murder of Avinash (36), a former school bus driver who had been unemployed for some time.

Police said Karthik's mother, Sumangala, called him around 10.30 pm on Monday, stating that Avinash was drunk and was abusing her and his grandmother.

Karthik returned home and, in a fit of rage, struck Avinash on the head and back with a steel rod. Avinash, who lived in a small room next to Karthik's house in Ullal Upanagara, collapsed and died instantly.

Karthik was arrested after his mother informed officials about the incident during a phone call.

Track quadrupling: 6 trains to skip Cantt, 5 Majestic

BENGALURU, DHNS: Due to the line and power block required for the Bengaluru Cantonment–Whitefield quadrupling project, six trains will skip Bengaluru Cantonment and five KSR Bengaluru (Majestic).

Train number 06269, journey commencing from October 27 to 31 and on November 3, will run via KSR Bengaluru, Yeshwantpur and Banaswadi SMVT Bengaluru, skipping Bengaluru Cantonment.

Train number 12658 will run via KSR Bengaluru, Yeshwantpur, Lottegollahalli, Banaswadi, SMVT Bengaluru and Baiyappanahalli on October 30, skipping Bengaluru Cantonment.

Train number 06270 will run via SMVT Bengaluru, Banaswadi, Yeshwantpur and KSR Bengaluru on October 30, skipping Bengaluru Cantonment.

Train number 16022 Kaveri Daily Express, journey commencing on October 30, will run via KSR Bengaluru, Yeshwantpur, Lottegollahalli, Banaswadi, Baiyappanahalli and KR Puram, skipping Bengaluru Cantonment.

Train number 06243, journey commencing on October 30, will run via KSR Bengaluru, Yeshwantpur, Banaswadi, SMVT Bengaluru, Baiyappanahalli and KR Puram, skipping Bengaluru Cantonment.

Train number 22135, journey commencing on October 31, will run via KSR Bengaluru, Yeshwantpur, Banaswadi, SMVT Bengaluru, Baiyappanahalli, KR Puram and Jolarpettai, skipping Bengaluru Cantonment.

Train number 16521, journey commencing on October 30, will terminate at Baiyappanahalli instead of KSR Bengaluru.

Train number 07340, journey commencing on October 30, will originate from Yeshwantpur instead of KSR Bengaluru.

Train 56520, journey commencing on October 30, will terminate at Yeshwantpur instead of KSR Bengaluru.

Three, including woman, held for robbing electronic showrooms

BENGALURU, DHNS: Varthur police have arrested three people, including a woman, for breaking into two electronic showrooms and stealing several premium mobile phones, including iPhone 17.

The arrested have been identified as Divas Kami, Aarohan Thapa, and Asmita. Police have recovered 28 stolen mobile phones worth Rs 30 lakh, along with an expensive wristwatch.

A senior police officer said a week ago, Kami and his associate Thapa had broken open the shutters of the two showrooms and escaped through an emergency exit after the burglary.

Police tracked the accused using CCTV footage and detained Asmita, who revealed details of the crime. She had reportedly left her husband to live with Kami, the prime accused who was selling the stolen phones.

Kami and Thapa, both habitual offenders, worked with an online food delivery platform during the day, while carrying out criminal activities at night.

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

World Caregivers Day: Lakshmi Hebbalkar to inaugurate, Rizwan Arshad, Shamla Iqbal to be present; Women and Child Development, Empowerment of Disabled and Senior Citizens; Bala Bhavan, Cubbon Park; 10.30 am.

Pali-Kannada Dictionary: Release of the fourth volume, edited by Mallepuram G Venkatesh; Pali Institute, Dr BR Ambedkar Study Centre, Bangalore City University, Seminar Hall, Jnana Jyothi Campus; 11 am.

Inter-College competition: Pannag L Kant, TA Balakrishna; BV Narayana Rao Auditorium, Vijaya College, Jayanagar; 9.30 am.

CULTURAL

32nd Annual Music Festival: M Balamurali Krishna (vocals), HM Smitha (violin), Vijaya Natesan (mridangam), Omkar G Rao (ghata); St John's Medical College Campus, Koramangala; 6 pm.

Inauguration of Cultural and Sports Activities: Anish Tejeshwar, Badari Prasad N, Vishnu Bharat; Acharya Pathashala Commercial College, NR Colony; 10.30 am.

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Generally cloudy sky with moderate rain

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	26.0°C
Minimum	20.0°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	--
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm)	88%
Sunset (Oct 29)	5:55 pm
Sunrise (Oct 30)	6:12 am
Moonrise	11:44 am
Moonset	11:15 pm

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

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'KRISHNA TO KAVERI'

Cultural fest to showcase Karnataka's soul, from rivers to rhythms

BENGALURU, DHNS

A two-day cultural festival celebrating Karnataka's rich heritage will be held on November 1 and 2 at the Bangalore International Centre (BIC), Domlur.

The event, titled 'Krishna to Kaveri', is being organised in collaboration with the Azim Premji University and marks its second edition.

The festival aims to bring together art, music, and cultural traditions from across the state.

"It was a coincidence that both BIC and Azim Premji University were planning a festival celebrating everything about Karnataka around the same time. So, it was a perfect marriage of minds. In the first year, our intention was to celebrate everything about this great state and bring in various interesting elements. This year, too, we are carrying the event forward with the same intention," said Vikram Bhat, director of BIC.

"Karnataka is a fusion of five different regions. But very often, Bengaluru only sees the southern side of the state. We want to bring these cultures to the forefront," said Sudheesh Venkatesh, Chief Communications Officer and Managing Editor, Azim Premji Foundation.

The festival will open with a puja and Somana Kunita by Nagathihalli Chandrashekar and MC Ramesh, followed by a Hindustani vocal recital featuring Vinayak Torvi, Vyasamurthy Katti, and Gurumurthy Vaidya.

A crash course on Kannada is also planned. "We want the festival to be inclusive — in the sense that both old Kannadigas and new Bengalureans should be able to celebrate the state in a language that everyone understands," said SV Manjunath, who heads the University's Kannada initiative.

Other highlights include 'Pratibimba #13, Srimata, Sadhanakeri, Dharwad'; a multimedia tribute to Jnanapith laureate Da Ra Bendre; '100 Years of Grooving', tracing Bengaluru's musical evolution; and 'Songs from the Banks of Krishna and Kaveri', bringing together melodies inspired by river saints. A performance by the Vasu Dixit Collective will wrap up the event.

Through the weekend, BIC will host an art showcase by Art Park, led by senior artist SG Vasudev, and an exhibition of Karnataka's monuments. Children can take part in a Chittara folk art workshop by Geetha Bhat and Shruti Belli.

For details, visit bangaloreinternationalcentre.org.

Azim Premji varsity's climate festival focuses on coasts & oceans

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Azim Premji University's fourth edition of the climate festival has set sail with a focus on the ecology and livelihoods shaped by India's coasts and oceans.

The festival, titled 'Coasts and Oceans of Life', will conclude on November 8. Blending research, art and tradition, the event seeks to highlight the challenges confronting marine ecosystems.

"Our climate festivals are designed to bring the science of climate change to young children. Each year, we choose a landscape that connects ecology, community and culture.

"Through art, dialogue and student research, we hope visitors will experience how deeply the oceans shape every aspect of our lives — and why their conservation is not merely critical for our planet, but our very survival," said Dr Harini Nagendra, Director of the School of Climate Change and Sustainability at the university.

In addition to research exhibits on marine biodiversity and climate change, the festival features immersive installations, storytelling sessions, film screenings, and workshops led by scientists, artists, educators, and community practitioners.

Justice Tara Vitasta Ganju sworn in as K'taka HC judge

BENGALURU, DHNS: Justice Tara Vitasta Ganju took oath as a judge of the High Court of Karnataka in the city on Tuesday.

Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru administered the oath at a ceremony held on the premises of the high court.

With her appointment, the court now has 49 judges against the sanctioned strength of 62.

Justice Ganju primarily practised in the Delhi High Court and was appointed as a permanent judge there on May 18, 2022, before being transferred to Karnataka.

Tahsildar fined Rs 25,000 for not providing information under RTI Act

KUNIGAL (TUMAKURU DISTRICT), DHNS: Information Commissioner Rudranna Hartikote has imposed a fine of Rs 25,000 on Tahsildar Rashmi for allegedly not providing information to a villager under the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

He has also directed the Revenue Department commissioner to initiate disciplinary action against her.

Narase Gowda, a resident of Kunduru village in the taluk, had filed an RTI application seeking information regarding a file. As the information was delayed, the applicant submitted an appeal to the Information Commission.

After conducting an inquiry, the Commission found that the Tahsildar had violated her duty norms by failing to provide the information within the stipulated time and by providing incorrect details to the Commission.

The Commission has ordered that the fine amount be deducted from her November salary and paid to the Commission, and has also directed that Rs 5,000 be paid to the applicant as compensation.

Textiles minister to discuss with CM on attracting investments to state

BENGALURU, DHNS: Minister for Textiles Shivananda Patil on Tuesday said that he would confer with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on the measures to be taken to attract investment for the sector in the state.

At the meeting of the High-Level Empowerment Committee held to discuss the implementation of the state's new textile and readymade garment policy, the minister underscored the need to offer entrepreneurs in the textile industry sufficient support to incentivise investing in the state. Patil said that officials in the department had been instructed to draft a report detailing textile policies adopted in other states including Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. "The report must contain information on concessions offered by states such as Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu to entrepreneurs," the minister said.

The unstable political situation in Bangladesh is compelling textile industries to shift their operations elsewhere. "Entrepreneurs relocating their businesses are exploring opportunities in Tamil Nadu, where the textile industry is stable. We must know what should be done to attract these investors to Karnataka," Patil added.

The minister pointed to Maharashtra government's decision subsidising electricity for the textile sector. "If we follow that model, entrepreneurs in Maharashtra may be willing to invest here. Efforts must be made to adopt that policy in Karnataka," said Patil.

In-service doctors yet to get permission for PG med course

No confirmation from Department of Health and Family Welfare

BENGALURU, DHNS

In-service doctors aspiring to pursue postgraduate medical courses in the state this year, are worried of missing the opportunity as the Department of Health and Family Welfare has not yet permitted them to take part in the seat allotment process.

Of the total available seats for the Postgraduate (PG) Medical courses, 30% has been reserved for in-service candidates. The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has opened registration and the document verification process is going on.

As there is no confirmation from the Department of Health and Family Welfare for in-service doctors to participate, the KEA has not allowed them in the document verification.

According to the sources from the department, considering the previous instances where a majority of the in-service candidates opted for subjects like dermatology and radiology, which are of not much use at the taluk-level hospitals, the department is yet to permit them to take up the course.

"We need expert doctors at taluk hospitals mainly for orthopaedics, gynaecology, general medicine, general surgery and pediatrics. Unfortunately, in-service candidates are opting for subjects like dermatology and radiology. Hence, we are still discussing giving No Objection Certificate (NOC) for the current year," said a source from the Department of Health and Family Welfare.

According to sources, doctors choose dermatology and radiology mainly because they are less stressed at the taluk level and they can easily practice privately during the evening hours.

"Gynaecology and general medicine are 24X7 work. Whenever they get a call from the hospital, even in the wee hours, they must visit the hospital," added the source.

Though there are seats available for other departments, including ESI, Boards and Corporation, Autonomous and BBMP in the PG Medical seats, highest are reserved for those from Health and family Welfare.

As per the norms, in-service doctors cannot leave the job for 10 years after they pursue PG course as the government pays their tuition fees and also pays them salary during that period.

Worried about missing the opportunity, the in-service candidates opined that the department can restrict a few subjects. "Many of us want to study courses like general surgery, general medicine and orthopaedics. If we miss this opportunity, we have to wait for one more year and it will be difficult to compete with young doctors to get seats in future," said an in-service doctor.

In numbers

Year	Intake	Allotted	Converted to non-in-service •
2024	353	122	231
2023	315	133	182
2022	279	182	97

Not all seats filled

Looking at the seats filled by in-service candidates in the last three years, it is not even 50%. During 2024, of the total 353 seats available under in-service quota 122 were allotted and 231 were converted into non-in-service quota.

'Waive income limit'

The in-service candidates have demanded the government to consider waiving income limit for them during PG Medical seat allotment.

As explained by them, it is known even to the government that their income crosses Rs 8 lakh as they are getting the salaries from the latter.

"Instead of having the Rs 8 lakh income seal, for which we cannot get certificate from the authorised authorities, government must consider waiving that clause and consider only caste," urged the candidates. Such a decision was made during the recruitment of principals to government degree colleges.

SEC announces schedule for revision of electoral rolls for GBA

BENGALURU, DHNS: The elections to the five municipal corporations under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) are expected to be held in February, as the final electoral rolls are expected to be published on January 29, 2026.

According to a circular by the State Election Commission (SEC), the ward-wise draft electoral roll will be published on December 8, while the final electoral rolls are expected to be published on January 29, 2026.

"Elections will be held in February in view of the directions by the Supreme Court," State Election Commissioner G S Sangreshi told *DH*. However, GBA sources suggest that the elections may be postponed to be held in April or May.

According to the SEC's schedule, staff training for the preparation of electoral rolls begins on November 1. After the draft electoral roll is published on December 8, block-level officers (BLOs) will start their house-to-house verification from December 9, which will go on till December 23.

The claims and objections will be disposed of in the time period between December 24 and January 7.

At a time when opposition parties have been raising concerns about the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), Karnataka has decided to use ballot papers for the GBA, zilla and taluk panchayat polls.

Farmers protest 'forcible' land acquisition in Doddaballapur

Say land is highly fertile; flay KHB's 'anti-farmer' stance

BENGALURU, DHNS

Over 600 farmers staged a massive protest in Doddaballapur on Tuesday, opposing the "forcible" acquisition of thousands of acres of fertile land from five villages in Bengaluru Rural district.

The demonstration ended after the protesters submitted a memorandum addressed to the state government to the Doddaballapur tahsildar.

Farmers from Dodda Hejjaji, Kasaghatta, Ainahalli, Karepur and Venkateshpura villages marched in a procession from Neladanjaneya Swamy Temple to the Doddaballapur Taluk Office.

They voiced opposition to the planned acquisition of 2,670 acres of land by the Karnataka Housing Board (KHB).

Chandra Tejaswi, a leader from Raitha Horata Samiti, stressed that the land is highly fertile, supporting crops like areca nut, coconut, silk and vegetables, alongside poultry and sheep farms.

He stated that Bengaluru Rural district is known for its silk and milk production, and a granary of ragi, crucial for supplying produce to Bengaluru and other districts.

Farmers protest against land acquisition in Doddaballapur on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The protest was staged early to preempt the acquisition, as a survey has reportedly been completed and the KHB has identified and finalised the area, he added.

Another leader, Prabha Belavangala, condemned the KHB's "anti-farmer stance," stating that the acquisition is being carried out without holding meetings or obtaining the consent of local farmers or the administration.

She stressed that this action "violates" existing land acquisition laws, arguing that driving out small farmers, many of whom know no other profession, will destroy their livelihoods.

The farmers said land across the district was being "forcibly acquired" by various government bodies, including the KIADB, the BDA and the KHB for KWIN City, the Outer Ring Road, highway development, aerospace park and Greater Bengaluru township projects, often without conducting social, economic or environmental impact studies.

They warned that this practice is "severely impacting" food security and causing environmental destruction, negatively affecting public health.

The farmers have urged the state government to immediately halt the proposed acquisition.

The proposed land acquisition in five villages was announced three months ago, with KHB officials holding a meeting at Vikasa Soudha on September 19 to discuss compensation in the 50:50 scheme.

Kurnool bus tragedy: Survivors recount memories of smoke, flames

Windows were smashed with bare hands, say passengers

ASHWIN BM
BENGALURU, DHNS

Apart from the 19 lives that were lost when a Bengaluru-bound AC sleeper bus caught fire in Kurnool, the tragedy has left 23 survivors who are struggling to cope with the trauma they have been left with in the aftermath of the incident.

On Tuesday, four survivors recounted to *DH* the rapidity with which the disaster unfolded, the sensation of being suffocated by the smoke, and the desperate, bare-handed fight to break free from the inferno.

Manempally Satyaranayana, a 27-year-old man from Khammam, was among the first to notice the emergency around 3 am, waking up to the "smell of burnt tyre." By the time he rushed to the driver's cabin, which was empty, the flames had begun to envelope the bus.

The emergency exit proved useless, forcing passengers to resort to smashing the windows. While four or five others struggled to break the toughened glass, one passenger did succeed in shattering it, sustaining severe injuries in the process.

For Musaluri Sriharsha, a 25-year-old software engineer, the horror was amplified by total darkness. Woken by noise and the smell of smoke, he said, "One minute after I woke up, we were not able to see anything. It went black completely."

Faced with the blinding smoke, he, along with two other passengers, struggled to break the side windows with their bare hands, having found no tools. Sriharsha witnessed two children and their parents escape first before following them through the jagged opening.

The fire spread quickly and there was no time to think nor help the other passengers. "The smoke got very heavy. You could not even breathe," said Satyaranayana, who noted that many passengers lost consciousness inhaling the fumes.

The narrow escape of Ashwin Reddy, 36, who was travelling to Bengaluru for a job interview, highlights the extremity of the situation. After failing to smash the glass, a small, half-open window offered a sliver of hope.

Ashwin tried to squeeze through but got his left leg stuck in the frame. It was a fellow passenger, Aakash, 31, a sales executive from Bidar, who rushed to his aid, and pulled his leg free.

Aakash later confirmed that he and four others managed to escape by successfully kicking open a window near the driver's seat.

While Sriharsha escaped with minor injuries, Satyaranayana sustained a severe leg fracture that requires surgery, and Ashwin suffered injuries on his hand, while attempting to smash the glass.

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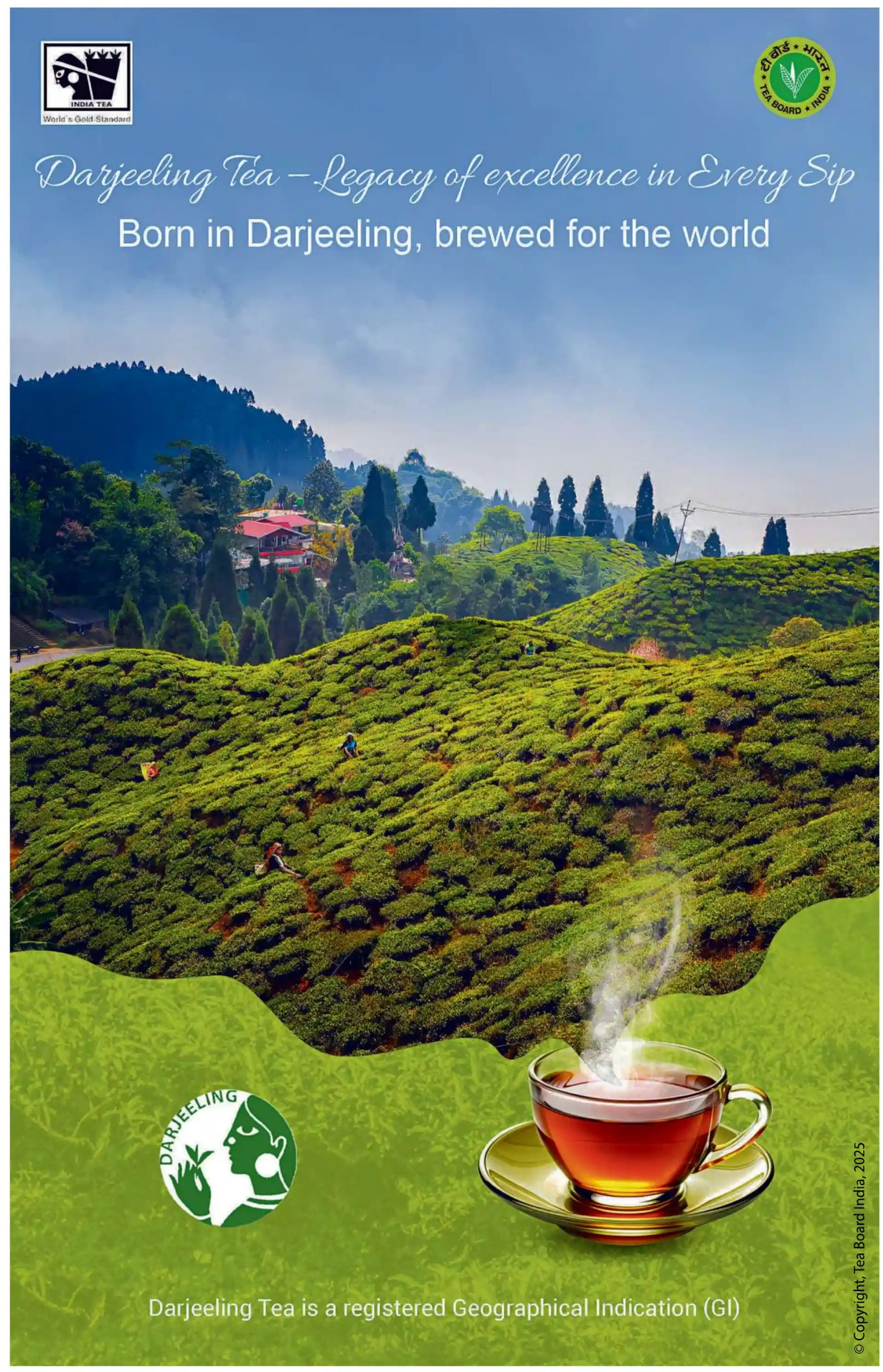
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What to expect this Rajyotsava weekend

The city is celebrating with a host of events featuring music, theatre and food ahead of the state's 69th founding day

TEAM METROLIFE

Plays, quiz and comedy shows

Pravara Theatre is staging 'Annana Nenapu', an adaptation of Poornachandra Tejaswi's book of the same name. The docu-play will feature important chapters from the book, which is a memoir on his father, Jnanpith laureate Kuvempu. On November 1, 7 pm at Kalagrama, Mallathahalli.

B M Giriraj's stage adaptation of 'Nanna Tejaswi', a memoir by Rajeshwari Tejaswi, will be staged at Dr C Ashwath Kala Bhavana, Basavanagudi, on November 2, 4.30 pm and 7.30 pm. 'Moor Jana', a crowdwork comedy show featuring comedians Nithin Kamath, Harman Preet Singh and Ganesh Kashyap will be held on November 2, 2 pm and 4 pm at Alliance Française de Bangalore, Vasanth Nagar.

Calm Your Wits, a city-based quizzing collective is organising Namma Bengaluru Quiz about the city's quirks, charm and culture. On November 1, 7 pm at Underline Centre, Domlur.

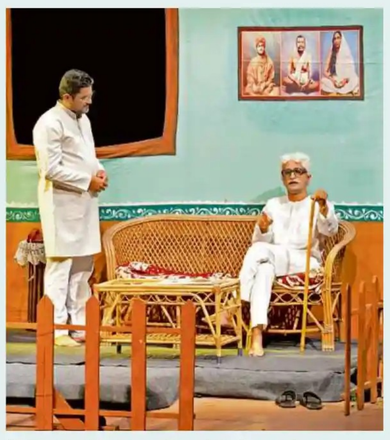
Thejaswi Udupa will host 'Sutta Mutta Gotta', a quiz on Karnataka and Kannada, on November 1 at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur.

Music and jamming

Unheard, a music community is organising 'Addhoori', an open mic and jamming session, on November 1, 4 pm at Just BLR, Brigade Road. Another jamming evening at Toca, Brigade Road featuring singer Pavan Bhat is also scheduled at 4 pm.

At Indian Craft Brewery in Nagavara, homegrown music band, Barfi, will perform a Rajyotsava special, 8 pm onwards on November 1.

Silaa: The Garden Cafe in Malleshwaram is hosting two Kannada jamming sessions on November 1 at 12 noon and 4 pm.



'Annana Nenapu', a play based on Poornachandra Tejaswi's memoir on his father Kuvempu, will be staged on November 1.

Two-day festival

BIC is hosting a two-day festival, 'Krishna to Kaveri: Celebrating the confluences of Karnataka', this weekend. Events include classical and folk music performances, a tribute to Jnanpith laureate Da Ra Bendre, a talk about the journey of Kannada cinema's transformation between 1974 and 1975, sessions for children, a Kannada language crash-course, and a wildlife photo exhibition. Visit bangaloreinternationalcentre.org for details.

Food popups

Along with the jamming sessions, Silaa is also organising a Rajyotsava banana leaf lunch on November 1.

The Filter Coffee is organising a Karnataka Rajyotsava Special Festival Meal at their outlets across the city — Kalyan Nagar, Indiranagar, Brookefield and Koramangala. The menu includes delicacies from across the state: holige, goli baje, batani gashi, shenga pudi, southekayi huli and bele rasam. On November 1 at 1 pm, 2 pm and 3 pm. The meal is priced at Rs 599, online reservation is mandatory.

Maravanthe in Indiranagar is hosting a food festival to celebrate the occasion. Called 'The Grand Oota', it will feature a vegetarian thali with Karnataka's 'iconic dishes'. The thali starts at Rs 599. They are also offering coastal meat delicacies at extra cost.

Register/ book tickets online for all the events.

POPCORN

Kof-ka in Delhi

Looks like Delhi has found a clever way of bringing down air pollution. They park water tankers fitted with sprinklers near the pollution monitoring stations, and voila! All is well, Diwali or no Diwali. Now, this is a model that could help improve other parameters as well. Conduct health surveys in sports institutions, and declare India 100% free of all health problems. Do a dip-stick survey in a posh neighbourhood of Delhi, and declare India the richest nation in the world. The only problem is, when you sit on the manicured lawns of your club in Delhi and order rum and Coke, you will most likely end up with rum and choke.

Loud crackers: More strays reported missing this year

Animal welfare volunteers are spotting unfamiliar dogs and are coordinating efforts to return them to their original areas

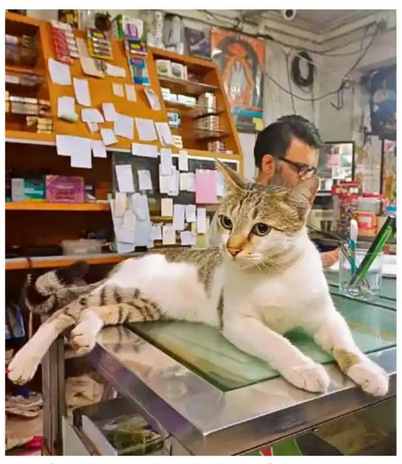
BARKHA KUMARI
TEAM METROLIFE

Animal welfare volunteers across Bengaluru are still trying to trace community dogs that likely fled their localities in panic during Deepavali. Social media is flooded with posts of missing alerts, sightings and search tips, like checking empty plots or drains when it is quiet enough to call out their names.

Lucky, who lives in Ramamurthy Nagar, has not returned to his spot since the evening of October 20. Locals last saw him near a row of shops. H Soumya, outside whose home Lucky would often sit, is distraught. "Every Deepavali, I bring him into our compound to shield him from the firecrackers. But this time, I was out of town," says the college student. She has since put up posters, shared his details online, and scours the neighbourhood twice a day.

Roughly 15 km away in Kumara Park, Simran Punjabi's family is slowly losing hope of finding their pet cat, Naughty, who has never stayed away this long. "She steps out at 5 am and is back within two hours. But last Tuesday, people began lighting firecrackers in the morning, and it rained that evening. She hasn't returned since," says Simran, who works at a tattoo and piercing studio.

The CJ Memorial Trust has 60 hyperlocal canine squads across the city. Its trustee Priya Chetty-Rajagopal says nearly half the animals reported missing since Deepavali remain untraceable.



H Soumya has stuck posters of missing community dog Lucky at shops in Ramamurthy Nagar where she lives. (Right) Simran Punjabi has spread the word in her locality in Kumara Park about her missing pet cat Naughty.

"Our volunteers keep posting the same three alerts — missing community dogs, frightened new dogs, or area dogs that are injured or terrified," she says. New dogs were spotted in Cubbon Park, Majestic railway station and under drains across the city, she adds.

Cooke Town resident Sakena Begg started the Diwali Dogs WhatsApp group after seeing the flood of distress posts. The group now has over 200 members. "Roughly 400 dogs are still missing. We are able to track one or two a day," she says.

Priya notes that the number of animals running off this year is higher than previous years. She attributes it partly to increased reporting — with more residents taking ownership of community dogs — and the Supreme Court's recent emphasis on animal welfare. But she also blames excessive cracker use. The Supreme Court relaxed the rule for Delhi-NCR but people thought it applied to the whole country, she says. Bengaluru permitted the bursting of crackers only on October 21 and 22 between 8 and 10 pm. "Even some police patrols seemed unclear about the rule," she adds.

Sadhana Hegde, founder of the Sahavarthin Animal Welfare Trust, which coordinates 350 animal feeders citywide, agrees. She says cracker use went on past midnight and was "louder than before", possibly due to the popularity of high-decibel "hydrogen bombs". "Almost every volunteer in our network has reported at least one missing community dog. The dogs that run into new areas are often chased further by local packs," she says.

Some tips to find missing strays

- Create a poster with details: photo, last-seen location, description of the collar, health, and caretaker contact.
- Set up a search party via an open WhatsApp group.
- Inform your local ABC centre, BBMP, police, and RWA.
- Join a local Canine Squad (www.bit.ly/SquadJoin) or groups like Diwali Dogs (84318 04142).

'Reunion like a miracle'

Animal lovers who have managed to reunite with their strays are breathing a sigh of relief. IT professionals Shreyas Deshpande and Ashwini Gangadhar from HSR Layout found two of their community dogs, thanks to collars marked with their contact numbers. One, a female named Sister, was traced 9 km away in Bellandur. Another, Jimmy, was found a kilometre away. Last Deepavali, Jimmy had wandered about 17 km to Kalyan Nagar. Six months later, he returned miraculously, says Shreyas.

A dog feeder in R T Nagar was reunited with Blacky, one of the 30 dogs she feeds, after four days. "He was spotted 5 km away in Cooke Town. Someone shared his photo in Sakena's group. When I rushed there, he looked dazed and his paws were scraped," she recalls.

Vaccinating new dogs

Volunteers have had their hands full before and after Deepavali. They boarded timid dogs, urged residents to offer refuge on their property, fitted some dogs with collars bearing their phone numbers, and even vaccinated and neutered some. But volunteers say collars often get stolen, or torn off while the dogs play.

Samridhi Hira, who tends to over 100 strays in the Shanti Nagar-Langford Town area with her group, says four new dogs have shown up since Deepavali. "We are now planning to vaccinate and sterilise them," says the college student, even while on the lookout for her six-year-old, Biscuit.

EVENTS

Women-centric run

The Saree Run, Bengaluru 2025, will be held on November 2. The non-competitive event is aimed at women to walk, jog, or run in sarees. It starts at 6 am and will be flagged off from Chandragupta Maurya Ground (also known as Shalini Ground) in Jayanagar. For details, email thesareerun@gmail.com or call 88677 60601.

Show on ancient rocks

Artist and designer Roshan Sahi will exhibit his paintings on the endurance of Bengaluru's ancient rocks amid rapid urbanisation from October 29 to November 2, 10.30 am to 5.30 pm, at IIHS, Sadashivanagar. The event, titled 'Rocks of Bengaluru', is open to all. Details on cityscripts.iihs.co.in

Discussion on buses

A panel discussion will explore the role of buses in everyday life in Bengaluru and why public transport must be made inclusive and dignified for all. 'Bengaluru Bus Stories' is scheduled for October 30, 6.30 pm, at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur. To RSVP, visit bangaloreinternationalcentre.org

Is B'luru's live music scene slowly coming back to life?

Twenty-seven places serving liquor and hosting live music had shut down in 2018. Artistes say things are looking up now

RASHMI RAJAGOPAL
TEAM METROLIFE

Pubs and bars hosting live music are slowly recovering from the setbacks they faced in 2018, when 27 of them had to shut down.

In December, one of Bengaluru's most popular live music venues, The Humming Tree, will open its doors again. It is moving to a new building not too far from its earlier location in Indiranagar. It had shut down in 2019.

"I believe Bengaluru needs half a dozen more spaces for music," says Arati Rao Shetty, musician and owner of B Flat, a popular bar and performance space, which was among the spaces that shut down in 2019.

Legal angle

Between 2018 and 2019, many venues wound up. In 2018 alone, police action resulted in 27 venues shutting down. While the common belief is that the music scene suffered because of the government's unfair rules, the truth is that the venues did not have a Public Entertainment License, which could only be obtained if they had an 'occupancy certificate' or OC, says a business insider. Earlier that year, a fire had broken out at a commercial building in Mumbai, which housed multiple pubs. It claimed 14 lives. That had triggered safety audits in Bengaluru.

An OC is difficult to obtain because it is given only if a building is constructed in accordance with the municipal bylaws. "The police were well within their rights to shut them down," the source explains. But, multiple sources say, many of the venues were running in rented buildings, and the owners were the ones responsible for ensuring that the buildings conformed to municipal bylaws.

Lack of small spaces

Prashanth Gnanamuthu, a seasoned bassist, notes that though venues like Fandom, Koramangala, and Gylt, Hennur, exist, they are large spaces, and bands are expected to sell a minimum number of tickets for a performance to be hosted. "It is almost impossible for smaller, local and regional bands to bring in those numbers," he explains.

B Flat in Indiranagar held an average of four gigs a week till it shut down in 2019.

Pre-pandemic, intimate venues like BFlat held at least four gigs a week, while The Humming Tree hosted about 25 events a month.

"That culture (of stepping into a small bar for a drink and enjoying some live original music at the same time) which was a large part of the city's entertainment scene, simply does not exist anymore," says Debjeet Basu, member of the multi-genre band Perfect Strangers. Seven years ago, his band would perform 7 or 8 shows a year in Bengaluru. Today, that number has come down to just two. "We perform more in other cities," he says.

The Humming Tree is set to return to a larger space on Indiranagar's 100ft Road. "The first and second of three floors have been turned into a performance space," founder Nikhil Barua says. The venue plans to host at least 25 events a month, spanning live music, theatre, stand-up comedy and film screenings.

Venues for rent

The shortage of performance spaces has led to the rise of smaller, rentable venues like Raft, Koramangala, and Streamphony, Jayamahal. Spaces such as Bangalore International Centre, Domlur, and Sabha, Kamaraj Road, also host performances but they can't replace boutique venues with a schedule curated by their proprietors.

Blesswin Immanuel, guitarist of country music band Mud Road, feels things are improving. "The scene is still recovering from the pandemic. But compared to three years ago, we are in a much better position," he says.

Arati agrees. "It is better, but it is not where it should be. Bengaluru has a culturally educated audience that deserves good entertainment," she adds.

CITY MIX

3-day festival for art appreciation

Thirty-two visual artists will display more than 300 works over three days in a festival called ArtistryAnnual. It is an initiative by Art Bengaluru Collective, a platform that is trying to democratise access to art appreciation in a gallery setting. The collective is cofounded by Rasheed Kappan and Ranji David. This year, its multimedia section will showcase works by artists from the UK, USA France, and Australia.

October 31 to November 2, 11 am-7 pm, at Rangoli Metro Art Centre, M G Road. Details on @artbengalurucollective.

Dog show coming up this weekend

A two-day dog show in Bengaluru will feature over 50 breeds, including the Akita, Poodle, Shih Tzu, Maltese, Schnauzer, Boxer, Great Dane, and Cocker Spaniel. The Mudhol Hound, native to north Karnataka, will be a highlight of the All-India Championship Dog Show, organised by the Silicon City Kennel Club and the Bangalore Canine Club.

On November 1 and 2, 9 am to 5 pm, at Esha Farms and Leisure, Yelahanka. Call 98455 53226 for details.

British national on 4,000 km India run

Jack Faint is living with a slow-growing brain tumour

SHRADDHA A K
TEAM METROLIFE

British runner Jack Faint, who was diagnosed with a terminal brain tumour at 25, is on a running expedition of roughly 4,000 km from Siachen to Kanyakumari. He is expected to reach Bengaluru in two days.

He has been running for about 60 days and aims to complete the expedition in the next 13 days, ahead of schedule. "I run anywhere between 50 and 80 km a day. I pace myself at 6 to 7 km per hour for 7 to 10 hours each day," he tells *Metrolife*.

Faint, from Cheshire in North-West England, was diagnosed with oligodendroglioma, a rare brain tumour, in 2019 after a seizure led to a hospital visit. When given the options of a biopsy, surgery, or regular monitoring, he instead chose to travel the world and discovered a passion for long-distance running.

To prepare for the run, he trained five to six days a week, focusing not only on endurance but also on adapting to varied weather conditions. "The preparation was challenging — not just physically, but also in managing the logistics of the event while balancing my full-time job," says the 31-year-old, who works for a British tech startup.

British runner Jack Faint.

He found it particularly tough to run through the high altitudes of the Himalayas and the heat of the Haryana-Agra plains. With "less traffic", he says, he found the southern regions easier to navigate. He first visited India during the pandemic. The four months he spent here, he says, deepened his connection to the country.

Fountain pen show returns on Friday

TEAM METROLIFE

The third edition of the Bangalore Fountain Pen Show will showcase fountain pens of various styles, makes and models, including vintage pieces.

Following last year's enthusiastic response to colourful inks, this edition will feature an even wider variety of shades, says Dr Sunil Alur from the organising team. Ink-focused brands such as Sheaffer, Montblanc, Monteverde, Lamy, and Private Reserve will exhibit their collections. The show will feature leading brands like Pininfarina and Omas, alongside Kaweco, Montblanc, Vazir, Ranga Pens, and Pilot who have exhibited previously.

Among the highlights are the Pelikan Goldfish pen, considered a collector's item, the special-edition Pilot Vanishing Point Fountain Pen, and hand-painted pens crafted by artists from Russia and Jaipur.

The event will also host activities like calligraphy workshops, live sketching sessions, and handwriting analysis.

Dr Alur said they have seen a 40% increase in enquiries compared to the previous edition. "People from both within Bengaluru and outside the city have shown interest to attend the event," he said. The event is organised by The India Pen Show in collaboration with Trustwell Hospitals.

October 31 to November 2, 10 am to 7 pm, at Trustwell Hospitals, J C Road. Entry free. For details, visit @theindiapenshow on Instagram or contact 99720 15252 on WhatsApp.

Bengalureans among 30 bikers to ride for a cause

The India chapter of the International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians (IFMR), headquartered in Bengaluru, is organising a motorcycle rally to promote environmental sustainability, preventive health, and peacebuilding. The 17-day expedition, titled 'Rotary K2K Rally', will begin from Kanyakumari on November 4. Riders will split into three groups, take different routes, and converge in Delhi before continuing through Kashmir and concluding at Attari in Punjab. They will cover about 15,000 km in total. Along the way, they will engage local communities on social and environmental issues. Of the 30 participants, 21 are from Bengaluru.

Ex-speaker Kageri accuses incumbent Khader of funds 'misappropriation'

Seeks judicial probe into renovations, furnishings in Soudha, LH

BENGALURU, DHNS

Former speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri slammed the incumbent U T Khader on Tuesday for alleged "misappropriation of funds" and sought a judicial probe by a sitting judge.

Addressing a news conference, Kageri, the Uttara Kannada BJP MP, said: "Khader isn't behaving in a way that suits the (Speaker's) chair.. In the name of administrative reforms, there are allegations of a big scam. There needs to be a comprehensive probe about this." The former speaker questioned various initiatives by Khader, including the rosewood door at the entrance, new TVs, spending for AI-monitored systems, giving clocks resembling Gandaberunda (the state's emblem) to all legislators, introduction of recliner chairs for legislators, providing lunch and refreshments for MLAs and so on.

"They have introduced smart door lockers for the rooms of legislators at the Legislators Home (LH). While big companies like Godrej are charging Rs 14,000-16,000, they have been charged over Rs 49,000. While smart safe lockers cost around 8,000-9,000 as per online info, they have been charged over Rs 35,000 for this. The market rate for the technology that switches off lights in case we forget and leave the room is around Rs 30,000. But they have been charged Rs 90,500".

He said 123 smart energy solutions, 224 safe lockers and 224 door lockers had been installed.

'Proposals rejected initially'

Kageri claimed that the finance department had initially rejected these proposals by saying that it wasn't an emergency.

"But after the file was returned, there's an allegation that the chief minister, who heads the department, himself made a phone call and got it cleared. Let there be a probe by a sitting judge so that the Speaker's chair is cleared from this allegation, and let the chief minister also come clean."

However, the former Speaker refused to quantify the magnitude of the scam. He said the probe would bring it to light, and added that he would write to Governor Thaawar Chand Gehlot about it.

JD(S) to remove GTD from core committee chief's position

BENGALURU, DHNS

Former minister and senior JD(S) leader G T Devegowda (GTD), whose lack of involvement in party affairs has been the subject of much speculation, will be removed as the president of his party's core committee.

A decision to this effect was taken at a recent meeting of the party chaired by Union Minister and JD(S) state president H D Kumaraswamy. A prominent leader in the Old Mysore region, Devegowda's conduct over the past year has ruffled quite a few feathers in the party.

Apart from his absence at party events, Devegowda has not held back from criticising both the JD(S) and even Kumaraswamy.

G T Devegowda

At the height of the controversy surrounding the alleged MUDA scam when the JD(S), along with the BJP, was demanding Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's resignation, Devegowda asked Kumaraswamy if he would have left office had similar allegations been made against him.

"Not just once, but G T Devegowda has spoken against the party at least thrice in the past one year," said a JD(S) MLA.

G T Devegowda had not held back from expressing his disappointment with the party leadership after he was overlooked for the position of JD(S) Floor Leader in the Assembly, which was subsequently given to Chikkanayakanahalli MLA C B Suresh Babu.

Meanwhile, the core committee members have asked Kumaraswamy to choose the next president. Although names of Mallesh Babu, an MP, and Arakalgud MLA A Manju were floated for the post, both of them reportedly refused the post.

An official order on the restructuring of the core committee is likely to be issued in a day or two, a senior JD(S) leader said.

Enduring bonhomie with former PM

Interestingly, G T Devegowda's relationship with former PM H D Deve Gowda have not soured despite the former's frustration with the party. G T Devegowda even called on the former PM when the latter was hospitalised recently.

Although the former PM reportedly tried to convince Devegowda to take an active role in the party, the latter has kept his distance.

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
E-Tender Notice No. : 08-2025-GSU-Elect-TRD

CPM, Gati Shakti, Central Railway, Solapur on behalf of the president of India invites E-tender from the reputed firms/Contractor for the following work. **Name of Work :** Up-gradation of Electric Traction System from 1x25 kV to 2x25 kV Traction System of DD-SUR section in Solapur division of Central Railway to meet 3000 MT loading target - OHE modification work. (Re-invitation) **Approximate Cost of the work :** Rs. 137,94,86,261.95/- **Earnest Money :** Rs. 70,47,400.00/- **Completion period of the work :** 24 (Twenty Four) Months. **Last date & Time for submission for tender on www.ireps.gov.in website :** 21.11.2025 up to 15:00 Hrs. **Date and time of opening of tender on www.ireps.gov.in :** 21.11.2025 after 15:30 Hrs. **Website particulars : www.ireps.gov.in. Note :** The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website frequently before the date of closing of tender to note any change/corrigendum issued for this tender website : **www.ireps.gov.in**

CPM (GSU) CR, SOLAPUR 67

असुरक्षित तथा अनाधिकृत रूप से
रेल लाइन के पास कार्य करना दंडनीय अपराध है

RASHTRIYA MILITARY SCHOOL, BELGAUM-590009
(Govt of India, Ministry of Defence)

REQUIREMENT OF TEACHERS ON CONTRACTUAL BASIS

1. Principal, Rashtriya Military School, Belgaum invites applications from interested and eligible candidates for the following teaching post purely on contractual basis

Sl. No.	Posts	No.of posts/ Subject	Educational Qualification	Salary
(a)	**Master Gazetted (Equivalent to PGT)**	01 Post of Social Science	(I) Master's degree in the concerned subject with B.Ed from a recognized university. (ii) 3 years teaching experience in secondary or senior secondary schools	Consolidated pay of Rs. 30,000/- per month for each post,
(a)	**Asst Master (TGT)**	01 Post of Counsellor	Bachelor of Arts with Psychology from recognized university OR Degree of a recognized University with Diploma in Counselling	Consolidated pay of Rs. 25,000/- per month

2. Interested candidates fulfilling the above qualification are requested to apply on or before 09 Nov 2025 along with resume/bio-data with mobile number & Xerox copies of testimonials.
3. Short listed candidates will be called for Written Test followed by Interview subsequently.

NOTE: The decision of the School authorities will be final & binding in all respect.

Sd/-
PRINCIPAL

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಕಾನೂನು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ
ನವನಗರ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ – 580 025, ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 0836 – 2222392,
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್ : kslu.registrar@gmail.com, ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ : www.kslu.karnataka.gov.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಕ.ರಾ.ಕಾ.ವಿ./ಕು.ಸ./ಅ.ಟೆ.ಪ್ರ./ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳು/2025–26/1708 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 27–10–2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ – 4 ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿದಂತೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಇನ್ನುಳಿದ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಖಚಿತಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಟೆಂಡರಿಗಾಗಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿವೆ.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು	ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) (ಜಿಎಸ್‌ಟಿ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
01	Construction of Guest House (50 Rooms) Building in the premises of Karnataka State Law University, Navanagar, Hubballi (KSLU/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT18 CALL-2).	847.46	12,72,000.00
02	Construction of Canteen Building in the premises of Karnataka State Law University, Navanagar, Hubballi (KSLU/ 2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT 19 CALL-2).	388.41	5,83,000.00
03	Construction of Annex Building to the New law school building in the premises of Karnataka State Law University, Hubli (KSLU/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT 20 CALL-2).	847.32	12,71,000/-
04	Proposed Construction of Library Building in the premises of Karnataka State Law University, Navanagar, Hubballi (KSLU/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT 29 CALL-2).	841.13	12,62,000/-

ಈ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾದ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 27–10–2025 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯಿಂದ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಿ–ಬಿಡ್ ಸಭೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 31–10–2025 ರ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ, ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ –ಸಂದೇಹ ಮತ್ತು ವಿವರಣೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 05–11–2025 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ, ಬಿಡ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 06–11–2025 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ, ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 07–11–2025 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 10–11–2025 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.

ಈ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು **ಸ್ಥಾನಿಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಕಾನೂನು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ, ನವನಗರ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ** ಈ ವಿಭಾಗದಿಂದ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.00 ಗಂಟೆಯಿಂದ ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ (ರಜೆ ದಿನಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ) ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕುಲಸಚಿವರು.
ಕ.ರಾ.ಕಾ. ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ, ನವನಗರ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ.

ಡಿಐಪಿಆರ್/ಧಾರವಾಡ/796/ಮಣಿಪಾಲ್/2025–26

Government of India
Ministry of Science and Technology
Department of Biotechnology
Block-2-3, CGO Complex
Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003

NOTICE

Advt. No. AI-99013/25/2025-AIPSU-DBT

Extension of last date for receipt of approval for filling up the post of Director/Executive Director of iBRIC-reg.

An advertisement was published in Employment News/Rozgar Samachar dated 27th September - 03rd October, 2025, inviting applications/nominations for seven (07) posts of Director/Executive Director in the institutes under the Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (iBRIC), the last date for receipt of applications was 26.10.2025. The last date of receipt of application has been extended for a period of 15 (fifteen) days from 27.10.2025 till 10.11.2025.

Detailed advertisement and application form are available at **www.dbtindia.gov.in, www.bric.nic.in** and websites of all seven Institutions **(www.nbrc.ac.in, www.nccs.res.in, www.ibsd.gov.in, www.nipgr.ac.in, www.niab.res.in, www.rgcb.res.in** and **www.nabi.res.in)**

CBC 36301/11/0005/2526

ಪಿ ಎಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಯ ವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ನಂ1 ಜಾಲಹಳ್ಳಿ ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು -560015
पीएम श्री केन्द्रीय विद्यालय नंबर 1 जालहल्ली पश्चिम, बैंगलोर -560015
PM SHRI KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA NO 1 JALAHALLI WEST, BENGALURU – 560015

WAIK-IN-INTERVIEW ON 31/10/2025 FOR PART-TIME CONTRACTUAL TEACHERS-2025-26

Qualified candidates walk in for an interview on 31/10/2025 in the Vidyalaya.

Post	Subject
PGT Mathematics	Two-year Integrated Post Graduate M.Sc. Course of Regional College of Education of NCERT in the concerned subject; OR Master Degree Mathematics from a recognised University with at least 50% marks and B.Ed or equivalent degree from a recognized university
Computer Instructors	At-least 50 % marks in aggregate in any of the following; 1. B.E or B. Tech. (Computer Science/IT) from a recognized University or equivalent Degree or Diploma from an institution/ university recognized by the Govt. of India. OR B.E or B. Tech. (any stream) and Post Graduate Diploma in Computers from recognized University. OR M.Sc (Computer Science)/ MCA or Equivalent from a recognized University. OR B.Sc (Computer Science) / BCA or Equivalent and Post post-graduate degree in subject from a recognized University. OR Post Graduate Diploma in Computer and Post Graduate degree in any subject from recognized University.
Vocational Education	B.E., B.Tech, Electronic & Communication Engineering • Minimum of one year of experience in the relevant field.

Reporting time 09:30 am. REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE BY 10.00 AM ON 31/10/2025

Principal, K.V. No.1, Jalahalli

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

Dy. Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer/Con/HQ/Garden Reach acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender for the following work : **NIT No. ST-CON-JSG-MCLB**; **Name of works:** Provision of Electronic Interlocking system at MCL BLOCK CABIN, modification in existing Electronic Interlocking at Jharsuguda goods yard in connection with yard remodelling at MCL BLOCK CABIN (double line fly over work) Chakradharpur Division in South Eastern Railway; **Advertised value of Tender :** Rs. 25,24,07,362.05; **Tender document cost:** 0; **Earnest Money :** 14,12,000.00; **Tender closing date and time :** 21/11/2025 at 15:00 hrs.; **Tender Type:** Open; Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Detailed of above Tender Notice is available on website **www.ireps.gov.in.** **(PR-777)**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC)
(CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP)
Plot No.12&13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-58. Ph: 080-2809196, 4184, 4541, 4542, Fax: 080-28094180

BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of President of India, **Item rate E-Tender** is invited online from Contractors of appropriate class for the following work

NIT No.	**ISTRAC/CMG/MAINT/C/ETN-79/ 2025-26 Dated: 27.10.2025**
Name of work	**Annual service contract for providing office srvice assistants for various sections at SCC, MOX & IDSN Campuses, ISTRAC, Bengaluru.**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 145.88 Lakhs**
Tender Document details	**E-Tender**
Period of Completion	**12 (Twelve) months (Department resrves the right to extend the contract for a further period of 24 months)**
Period during which tender documents can be downloaded	**From 14.30 hrs. on 29.10.2025 to 16.30 hrs on 18.11.2025**
Bid clarifications	**From 15.30 hrs. on 29.10.2025 to 16.30 hrs on 19.11.2025**
Last date of reply to Bid clarification	**Up to 16.30 hrs on 20.11.2025**
Last date & time for receipt of tenders	**Up to 14.30 hrs on 21.11.2025**
Due date & time of opening of tenders	**11.30 hours onwards on 24.11.2025**
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 2,91,760/-**

For eligibility criteria and other details, interested tenderers may please refer the detailed bilingual (Hindi-English) Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) on the website: **https://isro.gov.in/Tenders.html** and tender fee view at **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/- Group Head-CMG

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No: PCMM/CLW/ HWH/ E-Procurement/53 Dated: 24/10/2025. PCMM/CLW/Howrah on behalf of the President of India invites electronic bids from established reliable manufacturer for supply of the followings. The following E-Tender/s is for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/ likely suppliers are requested to look up the website **www.ireps.gov.in**. These are E-Tenders; manual offers bid for these tenders will not be accepted under any circumstances; only electronic offer bids shall be accepted. For detailed instructions please refer to website. **Sl.No.; Tender No.; Description of Stores; Quantity; Due On; Tender Cost are as follows: [315]; 14252581;** 1. ROTARY SWITCH FAILURE MODE OPERATION TO DRG./SPEC. NO. CLW/ES/3/0068/C. 2. ROTARY SWITCH BOGIE CUT-OUT IN SB1 TO DRG./SPEC. NO. CLW/ES/ 3/0068/C. 3. ROTARY SWITCH CONFIGURATION TO DRG./SPEC. NO. CLW/ES/3/0068/C. [Quantity Tolerance (+/-): 5 %, Item Category : Normal , Total PO value variation Permitted: Max 8 lacs]; **As per Tender/Doc.; 13/11/25;** 0.00. **[316]; 14252636;** OIL PUMP BRACKET FIXING TO DRG./SPEC. NO. CLW/ES/ 3/0148 ALT-NIL [Quantity Tolerance (+/-): 5 %, Item Category : Normal , Total PO value variation Permitted: Max 8 lacs]; **As per Tender/Doc.; 13/11/25;** 0.00. **[317]; 14255009;** SOCKET FITTING D=25 Category no. P/13/0041, as per specification no. CLW/ES/3/0254/E for WAG-9 loco; **As per Tender/Doc.; 14/11/25;** 0.00. **[318]; 14252699A;** CONTACTOR AUXILIARIES IN HB -1 & HB-2 TO SPEC./DRG. No. CLW/ES/3/0201/E; **As per Tender/ Doc.; 14/11/25;** 0.00. **[319]; 14252734A;** 1. CONTACTOR TYPE - 6 TO SPEC./DRG. No. CLW/ES/3/0034/C. 2. CONTACTOR FOR CONTROL ELECTRONICS AND CONTROL CKT. 'ON' (CONTACTOR TYPE 4) TO SPEC./DRG. No. CLW/ES/3/0034/C; **As per Tender/Doc.; 17/11/25;** 0.00. **[320]; 14252510F;** MACHINE ROOM BLOWER INCLUDING MOTOR (WOUND WITH CORONA RESISTANCE WIRE) TO SPEC./DRG. NO. (1) CLW/ES/ 3/0020/H & (2) SPEC/E-10/3/09 (MOTOR) WITH AMENDMENT NOS. 01 TO 06; **As per Tender/Doc.; 17/11/25;** 0.00.

AMM-II,
PR3/235 for PCMM/CLW/Howrah

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Our clients are desirous of purchasing all that piece and parcel of Private Residence i.e., **A Three Bedroom - Type 3, bearing No. 401 on the Fourth floor of E Wing of Tower II (described as North Wing - Tower A in the sanctioned plan)** bearing Municipal No. 8/1-91, 2nd Phase, J.P. Nagar, Marenahalli, Ward No. 177 (old ward No. 57), Bengaluru (presently bearing EPID No. **1663861347**) in the records of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palikeof the building knownas "***Peninsula Heights***" constructed on property bearing Municipal No. 46/1, 46/2, 47/2 and 81/1, and situated at2nd Phase, J.P. Nagar, Marenahalli, Ward No. 177 (old ward No. 57), Bengaluru ("**Said Property**"), from its present owner Mrs. Madhu Kandoi wife of Mr. Ratan Kumar Kandoi residing at No.404, Chartered Mady Apartment, 2nd Phase, J.P. Nagar, Bangalore - 560 078 ("**Owner**").

Any person/s asserting any right, title, interest or claim in the Said Property or any part thereof, in any manner whatsoever or having any claim against the Said Property or the documents thereof or against the Owner or objecting to such transaction with our clients, should write to the undersigned within **Fifteen (15) days** from the date of issuance of this notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regard to Said Property or any part thereof, after which period our clients shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Said Property.

SCHEDULE

A Three Bedroom - Type 3, Private Residence bearing No. 401 on the Fourth floor of E Wing of Tower II (described as North Wing - Tower A in the sanctioned plan) bearing Municipal No. 8/1-91(presently bearing EPID No. 1663861347)in the records of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike of the building known as "Peninsula Heights" constructed on property bearing Municipal No. 46/1, 46/2, 47/2 and 81/1, and situated at 2nd Phase, J.P. Nagar, Marenahalli, Ward No. 177 (old ward No. 57), Bengaluruand having a carpet area of about 242.35 square metres or 2608.65 square feet and super built-up area of about 361.38 square metres or 3890 square feet which is inclusive of proportionate share in the common area and common amenities and facilities along with exclusive right to use three (3) car parking space/s in the Basement together with corresponding undivided 0.6393% share in the land (equivalent to 1014.37 square feet) comprised in the entire property measuring in all about 1,58,659.80 square feet equivalent to 14739.87 square metres and bounded on the: ON THE EAST: 25th Cross Road (old existing Road to Bannerghatta); WEST: 17th Main Road (old proposed road of CITB) and portion of Municipal No. 46/1, 46/2, 47/2 and 8/1-3 and a portion of Municipal No. 46/1, 46/2, 47/2 and 8/1-4; NORTH: Property belonging to B.P.R.L. and SOUTH: Private Property (Old No. CITB land).

The property address as per Form 11A is mentioned as No. 57135, Marenahalli, 2nd Phase, J.P. Nagar, 8/1-91, Peninsula Heights, 17th Main Road, Near Bangalore Central Mall, Bangalore-560078.

Sd/- (R.Sunitha), Advocate,
CMS INDUSLAW
#101, 1st Floor, Embassy Classic, #11 Vittal Mallya Road,Bengaluru-560001
Phone: +91 80 40726600

PUBLIC NOTICE:

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that we are investigating the right, title, interest, benefits, entitlements of whatsoever nature of the respective owners of lands situated at Chunchegowdahosahalli Village, Doddabelavangala Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District which are more particularly described in the Schedule hereunder written and hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Schedule Property". Our client ("Client") is desirous of entering into a sale transaction of the Schedule Property with the respective owners of the Schedule Property who have represented to our client that they are the absolute owners of their respective extents in the Schedule Property with rights of alienation over the same.

ALL persons including an individual, a Hindu Undivided Family, a company, banks, financial institution(s), non- banking financial institution(s), a firm, an association of persons or a body of individuals whether incorporated or not, lenders and/or creditors having any objection, claim, right, title and/or interest in respect of Schedule Property or any part or portion thereof by way of sale, memorandum of understanding, exchange, mortgage, pledge, charge, gift, trust, inheritance, bequest, succession, family arrangement, grant, possession, lease, sub-lease tenancy, sub-tenancy, maintenance easement, license, bequeath, share, assignment, lien, attachment, development rights, covenant, settlement right of way, Lis pendens, reservation, agreement, FSI consumption, development rights, order/decree/judgement of court or any liability or commitment or otherwise or demand of any nature whatsoever are hereby requested to inform the same in writing, supported with the original documents, to the undersigned having their office at 6/12, Gurappa Avenue, Primrose Road Bengaluru 560 025 within a period of 10 (Ten) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons shall be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and our Client would be at liberty to proceed with the sale transaction in connection with the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY.

Sl. No.	Sy No.	Extent	Boundaries			
			East By	West By	North By	South By
Chunchegowdahosahalli Village, Doddabelavangala Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District						
1.	31/5	14.08	Land belongs to C N Veeraraju	Land belongs to Parvatamma	Land belongs to Maare Gowda	Land belongs to Parvatamma (Sy No.32/1)
2.	31/10	09.08(Including 01 Gunta Karab)	Land belongs to C N. Nagaraju	Land belongs to N. Krishnappa	Land belongs to Maare Gowda	Land belongs to C N. Veeraraju (Sy No.32/3)
3.	31/11	08.12	Land belongs to C N Muniraju	Land belongs to C N. Veeraraju	Land belongs to Maare Gowda	Land belongs to C N. Nagaraju
4.	31/12	10.04	Land belongs to C N. Muneendra Kumar	Land belongs to C N. Nagaraju	Land belongs to Maare Gowda	Land belongs to C N Muniraju
5.	31/13	03	Land belongs to C N. Nagaraju	Land belongs to C N Muniraju	Land belongs to N. Krishnappa	Land belongs to C N. Muneendra Kumar (Sy No.32/2)
6.	32/1	04.04	Land belongs to C N. Veeraraju	Land belongs to Parvatamma	Land belongs to Parvatamma (Sy No.31/5)	Govt water Channel
7.	32/2	18(including 02 Guntas Karab)	Land belongs to Nagaraja	Land belongs to C N Muniraju	Land belongs to Maare Gowda	Land belongs to Nanjundappa
8.	32/3	10.04 Guntas	Land belongs to C N. Nagaraju	Land belongs to N. Krishnappa	Land belongs to C N. Veeraraju (Sy No.31/10)	Govt water Channel
9.	32/4	10 Guntas	Land belongs to C N. Muniraju	Land belongs to C N. Veeraraju	Land belongs to C N. Nagaraju	Govt water Channel
10.	32/5	08.08	Land belongs to C N. Muneendra Kumar	Land belongs to C N. Nagaraju	Land belongs to C N Muniraju	Govt water Channel
11.	34/1	01 Acre 1.12 Guntas (including01.12 Guntas Karab)	Land belongs to C N. Veeraraju	Land belongs to Dodda Muniyappa and Puttanna	Lake bed	Huskuru village boundary
12.	34/2	01Acre 01.12Guntas (including01.12 Guntas Karab)	Land belongs to C N. Nagaraju	Land belongs to N. Krishnappa	Land belongs to Narasimaiah	Huskuru village boundary
13.	34/3	01Acre 01.12Guntas (including01.12 Guntas Karab)	Land belongs to Nanjundappa and Siddamma	Land belongs to C N. Veeraraju	Land belongs to Narasimaiah	Huskuru village boundary
14.	34/4	01Acre	Land belongs to C N.Muniraju	Land belongs to C N. Nagaraju	Land belongs to M. Nanjundappa	Huskuru village boundary
15.	34/5	01Acre 01.12Guntas (including01.12 Guntas Karab	Land belongs to Sharadamma	Land belongs to Nanjundappa and Siddamma	Land belongs to Venkataramanappa	Huskuru village boundary
16.	34/6	20.08(including 0.00.08 Guntas Karab)	Land belongs to Munilakshmamma	Land belongs to C N.Muniraju	Land Belongs to Hanumantappa	Huskuru village boundary
17	34/7	20.08 (including 0.00.08 Guntas Karab)	Land belongs to C N. Muneendra Kumar	Land belongs to Sharadamma	Land belongs to Dodda Muniyappa	Huskuru village boundary
18	34/8	01Acre 02 Guntas (including 02 Guntas Karab)	Govt Land	Land belongs to Lakshmamma	Land Belongs to Hanumantappa	Land belongs to Nanjundappa
19	59/3	04	Land belongs to Sitaramayya and Ganganjinappa	Land belongs to C N. Nagaraja	Govt road	Land belongs to C N. Muniraju
20	59/4	04	Land belongs to Sitaramayya and Ganganjinappa	Land belongs to N. Krishnappa and C N. Nagaraju	Land belongs to C N. Muneendra Kumar	Land belongs to C N. Veeraraju
21	59/5	04	Land belongs to Sitaramayya and Ganganjinappa	Land belongs to N. Krishnappa	Land belongs to C N. Muniraju	Land belongs to C. Nagaraju
22	59/6	05.12(including 01.02 Guntas Karab)	Land belongs to C N. Muneendra Kumar and C N Muniraju	Land belongs to Timmarayappa	Govt Road	Land belongs to N. Krishnappa
23	59/7	05.12(including 01.02 Guntas Karab)	Land belongs to C N. Muniraju and C N. Veeraraju	Land belongs to Maare Gowda	Land belongs to C N. Nagaraju	Land belongs to C N. Nagaraju and C N. Muneendra Kumar

Dated: 28/10/2025
Place: Bangalore

Mr. S T Prashantha Kumar, Senior Partner
Mr. B.C. Keerthi Kishore, Practice Head
Fox Mandal & Associates, Solicitors & Advocates,
FM House, 6/12, Primrose Road, Bangalore – 560025, Karnataka, India
Phone: +91 80 2559 5911 e-mail : prashantha.kumar@foxmandal.in

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Tender Publish Date 29/10/2025 to 22/11/2025. **Advt. No. 3/1036 Date : 27/10/2025**
Tender Accept Date 29/10/2025 to 22/11/2025 up to 2.30 PM **Tender Open Date 24/11/2025. after 3.00 PM**

Tender No.	Name of Department	Name of Work	Tender Fee	Work Amount	EMD Amount	Work Period	Tender Related Responsible Person /Mobile. No
PMC/water supply/2025/ 439	Water Supply	Pune Mahanagarpalikechya panipurvtha vibhagatil Bhama askhed jackwell v 200 MLD jalkendra 3 varsh kalavadhi karita, Comprehensive padhtine chalvinyasathi dainandin dekhbhal durusti v itar tadnushangik kane karne.	29,679. 00	120773752.64	603869.00	36 Months	Shri. Sandeep Sapkale Mo.no. 9689931068

A) Detailed terms/ conditions for the tendered works are mentioned in the tender set and it is published on the website www.mahatenders.gov.in Selling/Acceptance of the tender set is online only.
B) Complete information about online tendering process is available at the Water Supply Department, Pune Municipal Corporation.
C) EMD amount will be accepted only through ESC/RTGS / NEFT facility as per office Order No. AMC (spl) / 32 Dt.22/04/2016.
D) EMD Amt. to be paid online, the receipt of which should be submitted in envelope 'A'.
E) It will be sole responsibility of the tendered, if the tender set is not downloaded or submitted at the last moment.

Sd/-
The Executive Engineer (Electrical)
Parvati Water Works
Pune Municipal corporation

KPCL proposes two more pumped power storage projects

KARWAR, DHNS: Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) executive engineer V M Vijay said that proposals have been put forward to take up pumped storage projects in Saundatti of Belagavi district and in Ballari district, apart from the Sharavathi Pumped Power Storage Project. "Approval has been granted for the proposal of a 1,600 MW pumped storage project in Saundatti in Belagavi district," he said at a press conference on Tuesday.

RSS route march: Peace meeting fails to reach consensus

Focus shifts to hearing of the case in HC tomorrow

KALABURAGI, DHNS

The peace meeting, convened by the district administration here on Tuesday, failed to reach any consensus on granting permission for the route march proposed by the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and rallies by nine other organisations in Chittapur on November 2.

The discussion turned chaotic when BJP SC Morcha State Vice-President Ambaraya Ashtagi strongly objected to the demand by several organisations that the RSS be allowed to conduct its march only with the Tricolour and the Preamble of the Constitution, instead of lathis and the Bhagavadhwaj (saffron flag).

With no agreement in sight, the case will now come up before the High Court on October 30.

The nine organisations insisted on holding their rallies on November 2—the same day the RSS has sought permission for its march in Chittapur, the home turf of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge.

They contended that allowing the march with Lathis could pose a law and order issue, especially after a recent threat call to the minister.

Some also argued that permission should not be granted as the RSS is an unregistered organisation.

Eventually, Dalit and allied organisations expressed willingness to change their rally dates, provided RSS volunteers agree to carry the Tricolour and the Constitution's Preamble and refrain from using Lathis and the Bhagavadhwaj.

Leaders of various organisations arrive for a peace meeting at the DC's office in Kalaburagi on Tuesday. DH PHOTO

The discussion turned chaotic when BJP SC Morcha State Vice-President Ambaraya Ashtagi strongly objected to the demand by several organisations that the RSS be allowed to conduct its march only with the Tricolour and the Preamble of the Constitution, instead of lathis and the Bhagavadhwaj (saffron flag).

However, Ashtagi asserted that the RSS has the right to hold a peaceful route march with its traditional symbols, forcing officials to abruptly end the meeting.

Later, supporters of Priyank Kharge raised slogans against the RSS and the BJP in front of the Deputy Commissioner's office.

"Chittapur is the land of Buddha. Allowing a march with sticks will disturb the peaceful atmosphere. The BJP is trying to vitiate communal harmony," alleged Dinesh Dodamani, district general secretary of Karnataka Rajya Chalavadi Kshemabhivruddhi Sangha.

Charges against Priyank

Meanwhile, the BJP leaders accused Minister Priyank Kharge of orchestrating opposition to the RSS event.

Ashtagi said the RSS had first sought permission on October 19 and therefore should be allowed to hold the march, with other organisations choosing different dates.

"The Constitution provides citizens the right to conduct peaceful social activities. The march will be held with Lathis and the Bhagavadhwaj as per tradition," he maintained.

Govt will challenge stay order, says CM

BENGALURU, DHNS: The government will challenge the High Court's interim order staying an order requiring prior permission to use public places, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on Tuesday.

The Opposition BJP welcomed the interim stay, hailing it as "protection of civil rights".

Speaking to reporters, Siddaramaiah said, "I've asked for an appeal to be filed before a division bench. We'll appeal against the stay order by the Dharwad bench."

BJP state president BY Vijayendra described the High Court's interim decision as an "embarrassment" to the Congress government.

"This government, at least now, should learn a lesson," he said. "The Congress government's order targeted the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). The court's stay order is a tribute to the Constitution and democracy," he said.

BJP national general secretary CT Ravi said the Congress government's order was "unconstitutional" and hailed the High Court for "upholding" the Constitution. "The final order of the court will also be in line with the Constitution," he said. "Is it a crime to imbibe nationalist sentiments, promote harmony and engage in character-building? Those opposing the RSS are prejudiced. They should come to a shakha and see for themselves," he added.

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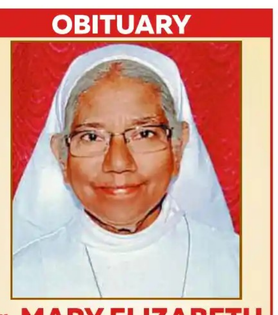

Sr. MARY ELIZABETH
DOB: 16-01-1940 DOD: 28-10-2025
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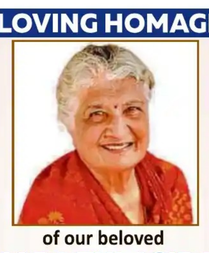

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The above society proposes to establish a new engineering institute titled "CMN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY" with a vision "To inculcate discipline, dedication, and determination in every step of life" from the academic year 2026-27 with the approval from All India Council for Technical Education New Delhi, affiliation from Visvesvaraya Technological University Belagavi, and recognition from Government of Karnataka. The Proposed institute is named after late SRI C.M. NAGARAJ Founder of East West Group Institutions and former Mayor of Bengaluru, The new institute intends of focus on developing innovative, adaptable, and ethical engineers ready for global challenges by emphasizing interdisciplinary learning with a culture of innovation, entrepreneurship, and social responsibility. The institute will offer programs such as BE in Computer Science and Engineering / Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning / Electronics & Communication Engineering / Electronics & Computer Engineering / Masters of Business Administration / Master of Computer Applications.
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PERSONAL

Change of Name

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RUKSAR, residing at # 38/2, SBS Land Mark, Flat No. 102, 2nd Main, Srinivasa Layout, Kavalbyrasandra, Bengaluru- 560032, have changed my name to RAHMATHUNNISSA vide affidavit dated 28-10-2025 before notary R.Basavaraja, Bengaluru. Henceforth I shall be called as RAHMATHUNNISSA only.

I, CHETAN Datta Kulkarni, residing at C305, Manasa Castle, Yoga Ashrama Road, Hinkal, Mysuru- 570017, declare that my daughter's name has been changed from IRA to IRA CHETAN KULKARNI as per affidavit No.IN-KA70489692177069X dated 16.10.2025, notarised by Mrs. S.N. Hemalatha, Mysuru. Henceforth she will be known as IRA CHETAN KULKARNI.

I TINA. P. r/a, #101, 1st floor, Shravanee Vista Gardenia, Vani Vilas Road, VishveshwaraPuram, Basavanagudi. Bangalore-560004, have changed my name from Tina. P to TINA VEDANT JAIN Vide affidavit dated 27/10/2025 before notary Mohammed Hussain. K Bangalore.

Farmers, villagers protest against survey at iron mining site

SANDUR (BALLARI DISTRICT), DHNS

Activists from various organisations including the Janasangraama Parishat, and the mining-affected areas' restoration committee, took out a rally near Narasingapur in Sandur on Tuesday to protest the ongoing survey work undertaken by the Kudremukh Iron Ore Corporation Limited at the Devadari iron ore project site.

Residents and farmers from Narasingapura, Ranajitpura, Narayanapura, Bujanganagar, Yeshwantnagara, among others, participated in the protest rally.

Citing the Central Empowered Committee's (CEC) report to the Supreme Court, recommending reducing the quantity of iron extracted from the Devadari ore from 50 million tonnes to 20 million tonnes, the protesters said, "But the National Mineral Development Corporation, which is under the jurisdiction of the Union Steel Ministry, has increased the volume of iron extracted from the ore by 16 million tonnes. This company has also not implemented reservation in hiring."

Officials of the Mines and Geology, and Survey departments decided to halt work on the ongoing survey in the wake of the protest.

A number of farmers' outfits including the Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha, besides trade unions such as the SUCI(C), and Kannada organisations have lent their support to the agitation. Dalit Sene too has expressed solidarity with the protesters.

Residents of several villages around Sandur assembled to protest ongoing survey work at the Devdari iron ore project site on Tuesday. DH PHOTO

Lingayat, Vokkaliga bodies urge CM to rectify 'unscientific' quota roster

BENGALURU, DHNS: The bodies representing the Lingayat and Vokkaliga communities have written to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, urging him to correct the "unscientific" roster of reservations for Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes communities.

On October 17, Rajya Vokkaligara Sangha president Kenchappa Gowda wrote to Siddararamaiah, while All India Veerashaiva Mahasabha president and veteran Congress legislator Shamanur Shivashankarappa wrote to the CM on October 18.

The letters claimed that the reservation roster brought into effect by the Karnataka government on December 28, 2022, (the BJP was in power then) was "unscientific," and that the rosters adopted by the union government in 1997 and 2019 were "scientific."

They claimed the current system was an "injustice" to the general category, 3A and 3B communities.

"Therefore, we request you to form a high-level committee comprising good officers and ensure that justice is delivered by implementing a roster in the state similar to the one at the central level," the letters said.

TROOP IN TROUBLE

Over 10 mischief-monger monkeys were bundled into a cage and shifted out of Nagarangere village in Challakere taluk of Chitradurga district in a vehicle to Hassan. The simians used to target women and children, snatching bags and other things carried with them while walking on the streets, injuring them in some instances. Following complaints from residents, authorities brought in monkey-catchers from Kolar to round them up.

Cops can register FIR for threatening witness, court's plaint not needed: SC

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Tuesday held that threatening a witness was a cognizable offence and the police could directly register an FIR and investigate such an incident without waiting for a formal complaint from a court.

A bench of Justices Sanjay Kumar and Alok Aradhe said an offence under Section 195-A IPC was a cognizable offence and pertained to inducing a person to give false evidence by intimidating him or her with threat of injury either to his or her person or reputation or property or to the person or reputation of anyone in whom that person is interested.

In a matter related to the 2016 murder of BJP worker Yogesh Goudar, involving former minister and Congress leader Vinay Kulkarni as accused, the court allowed an appeal filed by the CBI and set aside the Karnataka High Court's orders quashing taking of cognisance of the offence against the accused for threatening witnesses.

The court said, "Section 195-A (offence of threatening witnesses) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) was conceptualized as an offence distinct and different from those under Sections 193, 194, 195 and 196".

The bench also set aside the Kerala High Court's decision which held that an FIR for offence pertaining to threatening a witness under Section 195-A of the IPC cannot be registered by the police.

Disagreeing with the view, the court said this section was deliberately conceptualised as a distinct offence with a different procedural pathway and being a cognisable offence, the police is empowered to directly register FIR based on the statements of the threatened witness.

The court stressed that requiring a threatened witness to first approach the court for a complaint would be an impractical hurdle.

"Requiring that person to go before the court concerned... and inform it about that threat thereby necessitating a complaint under Section 195(1)(b)(i) along with an inquiry under Section 340 CrPC would only cripple and hamper the process," the bench said.

The court pointed out the undeniable fact remained that the offence under Section 195-A IPC is a cognisable offence.

"Once that is so, the power of the police to take action in relation thereto under sections 154 CrPC and 156 CrPC cannot be doubted," the court said.

The court's judgment declared the view taken by Kerala and Karnataka High Court as erroneous and unsustainable in law.

In the case filed by Kerala, the High Court granted bail to the accused, holding that the police were not authorised to register an FIR for offence under Section 195A IPC, and only court was empowered to register complaint against the said offence. The apex court allowed the appeal filed by the Kerala government.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D K Shivakumar present the newly introduced navy-blue peak cap to constable Kavana S M at a function at the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Tuesday. (Right) Peak caps give the personnel a refurbished look. DH PHOTOS/PUSHKAR V

Constables get peak caps, CM says efficiency must match new look

Slouch hats weren't rain-proof, new caps give professional look

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar and Home Minister Parameshwara distributed peak caps to police personnel at a ceremony held at the Vidhana Soudha on Tuesday.

Kavana S M, a female constable posted in the Central Crime Branch (CCB), received the new peak cap from the chief minister.

"I feel proud to wear this new cap. It's lightweight, comfortable and looks very professional with the police uniform," she said. Siddaramaiah said, "When there was a proposal to change the police caps, I chose the peak cap. Slouch hats were being used for a long time. Let not only your cap, but your efficiency also change for the better. Police personnel should work more effectively, stay away from illegal activities and maintain control over crime".

Parameshwara said the peak caps would help boost the self-confidence and professional image of the police personnel.

"The new peak caps strengthen the self-confidence of our police personnel. The earlier hats were uncomfortable during the rainy season and did not look good. Our police personnel look smarter and more professional in the new caps," he said.

While 600 constables received these caps on Tuesday, a senior police officer said 83,000-odd police constables would get them in the next two to three months. The government will recruit 8,500 new constables soon, the officer added. Releasing the 'Sanmitra' brochure for the state's Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF), the chief minister said the government's goal was to make Karnataka drugs-free, not just in slogan, but also in reality.

"The government will be happy only when the state becomes free from drugs," the CM said. To strengthen enforcement against drug-related crimes, the ANTF, a specialised state-level unit headed by an ADGP-rank officer with a sanctioned strength of 56 personnel, will work in close coordination with national agencies to combat the rising menace of drugs.

ATTIRE AVATARS

1 Era of the Maharajas | 2 British Influence | 3 Working Dress | 4 Peta style | 5 Slouch Hat | 6 Custodian Helmet | 7 Peak caps

Re'cap' of police head gear glory: A peek into past & its present 'peak'

The Karnataka police will henceforth sport a new headgear - a peak cap that was launched on Tuesday. This will be worn by police constables and police head constables across all categories. The personnel have worn many caps in their about two centuries of history, but their commitment to public safety has remained steadfast throughout. *DH* gives a lowdown on the many colourful and crowning glories that the men in uniform have donned.

ERA OF THE MAHARAJAS

1 During the era of the Maharajas of Mysore (year not known), when a policing system under 'Kandachara' or 'Hukumnama' was established, the constabulary donned a khaki shirt, half-trousers (shorts) and coloured, often red and blue striped, turbans.

BRITISH INFLUENCE

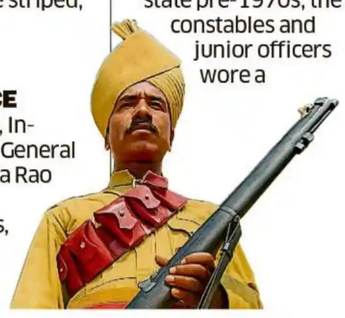
2 In 1882, Inspector General V P Madhava Rao introduced formal coats, breeches, turbans and boots for specific occasions.

WORKING DRESS

3 In 1933, F A Hamilton, Inspector General, introduced a more practical working dress of shirts, shorts and stockings for officers above the rank of Jamaidar.

PETA STYLE

4 When Karnataka was still Mysore state pre-1970s, the constables and junior officers wore a 'peta,' a thick khaki cloth wrapped around the head.

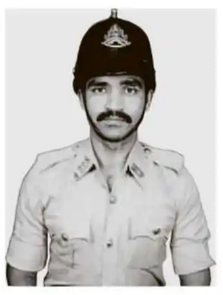


SLOUCH HAT

5 After the formation of Karnataka in 1973, the wide-brimmed slouch hat replaced the peta. The red-and-blue striped turban, worn as a part of the colonial uniform, continued to be used for ceremonial duties. During the colonial period, Indian officers wore slouch caps as against British officers who donned peaked caps.

CUSTODIAN HELMET

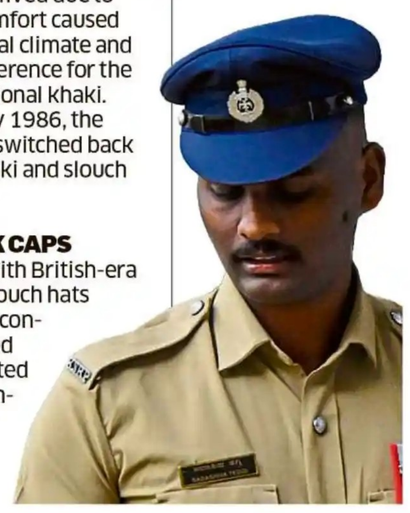
6 In 1982, constables were given navy blue trousers and white shirts with a 'custodian helmet' (British Bobbie style). The experiment was short-lived due to discomfort caused by local climate and a preference for the traditional khaki. In July 1986, the force switched back to khaki and slouch hats.



PEAK CAPS

7 With British-era slouch hats being considered outdated and uncomfortable over time, the government introduced navy blue peak caps for police constables and head constables. The new navy blue peak caps are modeled on the Telangana police cap, chosen after reviewing cap styles of other states like Maharashtra, Delhi, Goa and Tamil Nadu.

Photos credit: Karnataka State Police



Doctors observe an increase in stroke cases among youngsters

Stroke cases, from Page 1

The incidence of stroke is specifically higher among youngsters In urban areas in Bengaluru. "In dense urban settings like Bengaluru, there are additional pressures: long commuting hours, erratic sleep, work related stress and poor diet, all of which accelerate vascular risk," noted Dr Kulkarni.

Doctors advise that youngsters undergo annual screening and keep a check on their health without waiting for symptoms to show up.

"First, adopt regular screening: don't wait for symptoms. Annual check ups of blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol are essential. Second, embrace lifestyle change: quit smoking and alcohol abuse, maintain a healthy weight through daily physical activity, prioritise sleep and reduce stress and consume a healthy diet," Dr Kulkarni suggested.

October 29 is World Stroke Day.

Rains pummel Andhra as Montha makes landfall

Cyclone, from Page 1

In the Waltair Division of the East Coast Railway, more than 23 trains have been cancelled and 15 rescheduled to ensure passenger safety.

The Andhra Pradesh government has launched extensive rescue and relief operations, evacuating residents from cyclone-prone villages to relief camps equipped with food and water supplies.

Under the influence of the cyclone, isolated extremely heavy rainfall is expected over Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalaseema, and Telangana through Tuesday and Wednesday.

Authorities have ordered all commercial establishments to close by 7 pm, urging residents to stay indoors. Several trees were uprooted and power supply was suspended in many places as a precautionary measure.

CM N Chandrababu Naidu directed officials to deploy drones to monitor inundated areas continuously. The CM also directed special monitoring of low-lying areas.

SC/ST leaders of Congress revive plan for Dalit convention

HM, Mahadevappa hold closed-door meeting

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) leaders in the Congress are planning a big Dalit convention, which could become a show of strength, as part of 'Ahinda' strategy for CM Siddaramaiah amid uncertainty over his tenure.

Home Minister G Parameshwara & Social Welfare Minister Dr H C Mahadevappa - both SC leaders - met over breakfast on Tuesday, where they are said to have discussed the meet.

Parameshwara, however, said he met Mahadevappa to seek funds for a building for the Harti Credit Cooperative Society in Tumakuru, which the home minister chairs.

Earlier this year, the Congress high command had paused Parameshwara's plan to convene a meet-up of SC/ST leaders to plan the convention. This time, however, the Dalit leaders seem bullish.

"What's the problem in having a convention? Earlier, for some reason, high command asked us not to go ahead and we agreed. For the community to stick together, we need such conferences. We need to inform the community on what Congress government has done for them," he said.

According to sources, leaders like Parameshwara want to organise the convention to express gratitude to SC/STs for supporting Congress in 2023 polls.

The convention will also help them make sure Dalits stick with Congress, strengthening 'Ahinda'.

Ahinda - a political grouping comprising minorities, backward classes and Dalits - forms Siddaramaiah's electoral edifice.

"Details of the convention haven't been finalised yet," Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi, an ST, said. The planned convention may even happen outside Congress' banner.

"If needed, we'll inform party or seek its permission. Or if the community organises it, we'll participate," Jarkiholi said.

Mahadevappa said they need not "consult the almanac" to plan the convention. "In Mysuru recently, there was Bouddha Maha Sammelan and all us of attended," he said. "Dalit issues need to be addressed. The right message should be sent to them."

Plans for an SC/ST convention come at a time when the 'Dalit CM' demand has resurfaced. "We'll discuss this (Dalit CM) when the time is right," Jarkiholi said.

"Calls for a Dalit CM should reach the party high command, and the top brass will have to think about it. Right now, this proposal isn't before us," he said.

People not concerned about who becomes CM: Vijayendra

BENGALURU, DHNS: State BJP president BY Vijayendra slammed the ruling Congress on Tuesday, stating that the people of the state were not concerned with who became the chief minister.

Speaking to reporters, he said: "Even Home Minister G Parameshwara has said that if these statements are not stopped, it will impact the government. People are not interested in who will be the CM and whether there will be a change. People have totally lost faith in this government."

He was referring to Parameshwara's statement that "daily confusion" over leadership change and Cabinet reshuffle is impacting governance.

We can't stop people from using cars, says DKS

DKS, from Page 1

"Let's see how many will do it," he said, dismissing the idea that only public transport will solve Bengaluru's traffic congestion.

"He (Surya) spoke about the formation of BMLTA. I asked why it was not done during your time. I also asked how much the Centre will fund for Bengaluru's development. All your MPs come, I will also come. Let us meet the prime minister and insist on funds," he said.

Shivakumar asserted that six acres of Lalbagh land will not be acquired for the project. "Entry and exit for the tunnel road will be allowed only at the corner of Lalbagh," he said.

When asked about the PIL filed against the tunnel project, Shivakumar said he had no objections to judicial scrutiny. "Let the court itself form a committee and inspect all the sites. If our officials or I have done anything wrong, let them tell us. We are ready to fix it," he said.

22 tunnel ramps will create ...

Surya, from Page 1

"Bengaluru needs sustainable transport solutions like metro, suburban rail and more buses," he said, adding the tunnel road can carry only about 1,800 vehicles per hour per direction, while the same investment in the metro could move nearly 69,000 passengers in the same time.

Surya also expressed concern that officials and consultants do not give complete information about the tunnel project to the deputy chief minister, pointing at the possibility of exacerbating traffic congestion in 22 entry and exit points. The government, he said, should focus on moving people and passengers, not private cars and vehicles.

The MP pointed out that a metro line is already proposed along the same alignment as the tunnel, calling it a "duplication of work and waste of resources".

He also drew parallels with global urban transport trends. "In countries like South Korea and China, flyovers are being demolished as they are not helping in decongesting traffic," he said. "This is not a fight," Surya said, adding that money should be spent on sustainable projects that have long-term benefits for Bengalureans, not on car-centric infrastructure that creates new problems.

Besides urging the government to drop the tunnel project, he proposed loop bus services every five to ten minutes connecting KR Puram and Central Silk Board metro stations. Surya also urged the government to appoint a chairman for the Bengaluru Metropolitan Land Transport Authority (BMLTA) while also appreciating the government for reviving the 74-km Bengaluru Business Corridor.

Amid RSS row, HC stays govt order on use of public spaces

HC stays, from Page 1

Senior advocate Ashok Haranahalli, representing the petitioners, submitted that the government order violates Articles 13, 14, 19 and 21 of the Constitution. He said that restricting public gathering is governed under section 31 of the Karnataka Police Act.

"The government is not competent to issue an executive order when the field is occupied by the statute. Parks and roads vest in the local authorities under two other statutes, The Karnataka Parks, Play-fields and Open Spaces (Preservation and Regulation) Act and Karnataka Municipal Corporations Act. Suppose I am a part of the laughter club or walking group, how does it become an unlawful assembly," he asked, arguing that the rights guaranteed under Article 19 (1) (b) (freedom of speech and expression) cannot be taken away by issuing an executive order.

When the court sought a clarification on the issuance of the order, the government advocate sought time to seek instructions.

Justice Nagaprasanna noted that when provisions under the Karnataka Police Act regulate the conduct and behaviour and action of persons constituting assemblies and processions, the government order has, prima facie, taken away the rights conferred upon citizens under chapter III of the Constitution, specifically the freedoms under Article 19 (1)(a) and (b).

"It is trite that fundamental rights cannot be curtailed by executive orders. Article 13(2) of the Constitution holds a bar against such encroachment, that Chapter III of the Constitution can only be abridged by a law and not by an administrative order, or a Government Order," the judge said.

"Therefore, the impugned Government Order runs contrary to Article 13(2) and, thereby, takes away the fundamental right under Article 19(1)(a) and (b). Allowing it to operate would prima facie mean to permit liberty granted to citizens under Articles 19(1)(a) and (b) to be taken away by an executive order," Justice Nagaprasanna observed.

Liquor ban review, free power in I.N.D.I.A...

Manifesto, from Page 1

"People want a government that would provide 'padhai' (better education), 'dawai' (better health facilities), 'kamai' (employment) and 'sichai' (better irrigation facilities). The NDA has no vision for Bihar. They have not released the manifesto for the polls so far...BJP leaders and corrupt officials have made Chief Minister Nitish Kumar a puppet," he said at a joint press conference.

Another important promise made in the manifesto is that the I.N.D.I.A bloc "will not allow in Bihar the implementation of Waqf (Amendment) Act", implemented by the Narendra Modi government at the Centre, though steps will be taken to ensure "greater transparency in management of Waqf properties".

It has also promised jobless graduate and post-graduate youth a monthly unemployment allowance of Rs 2,000 and Rs 3,000 respectively as also an end to the practice of outsourcing jobs.

Many of the promises made in the manifesto were announced earlier by I.N.D.I.A leader, including providing permanent jobs to 'Jeevika Didis' (community mobilisers) with a monthly salary of Rs 30,000, an increase in social sector pension and land for landless labourers in rural and urban areas.

The I.N.D.I.A bloc has also promised a law to prevent harassment of women who have taken loans from micro-finance institutions, besides a monthly honorarium of Rs 2,500 per month and free bus ride for women.

"The Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act has completely failed. If the I.N.D.I.A bloc is voted to power, we will remove the ban on toddy," Tejashwi said.

Fire at YTPS

RAICHUR, DHNS: A fire broke out on Tuesday in the coal conveyor belt of the CHP-3 section at the Yermarus Thermal Power Station (YTPS), destroying equipment worth several crores of rupees. The 600-meter-long belt that supplies coal to the power units, along with other materials, was burned in the incident. Firefighters rushed to the spot and extinguished the fire.

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- Professor, Associate Professor in CS&E, AI&ML, Civil Engg: PhD is Compulsory.
- Assistant Professor in CS&E : First Class in BE & M.Tech, Preference will be given to PhDs.

MCA Dept.
- Professor, Associate Professor : Ph.D is Compulsory.
- Assistant Professor : First Class in BE / BCA & MCA, Preference will be given to PhDs.

MBA Dept.
- Assistant Professor : First Class in any graduation & MBA, Specialization in Finance & HR, Preference will be given to PhDs.
- Assistant Physical Education Director : First Class in B.PEd & M.PEd. with KSET/NET and Preference will be given to PhDs.

NON TEACHING
- Accounts Officer : Any graduation / Post graduation professional certifications like the ICAI or equivalent with more than 10 years experience in Accounts Department, Preference will be given to candidate having CA.
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No. BMRCL/HR/0020/PRJ/2025 Date: 28.10.2025

NOTIFICATION FOR CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

BMRCL invites applications from qualified and experienced retired Railway officials for appointment to the following position in the Project Wing. The appointment will be on Contract basis.

Sl.No.	Name of Post	No. of Posts
1	Supervisor (Operation Safety)	04
	Total	04

Last date for receipt of online applications is 17/11/2025 and for receipt of signed application along with supporting documents is 04.00PM on 20/11/2025.

For details regarding eligibility, salary, application process and other details, please visit BMRCL website: www.bmrc.co.in/Career Section

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SIR 2.0 and a vote of trust

The Election Commission of India (ECI)'s announcement of the second round of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls comes after Bihar, where many questions about the revision remain unanswered. Ensuring representative electoral rolls is the central idea behind the fresh exercise, to be held in 12 states and Union Territories, including West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala. In Bihar, the SIR was initiated with a stated objective to update the rolls, with a focus on the presence of migrant and ineligible voters. However, the exercise was plagued with procedural lapses and hurried implementation, making it difficult for the voters. Though the Supreme Court's intervention addressed some of the shortcomings and corrected gross lapses, the outcome was far from perfect.

The EC has said that the fresh exercise will be different in some respects. There is a longer notice period – of 54 days – for the hearing and verification of details. The enumeration form will feature new fields. Voters can produce Aadhaar as one of the supporting documents, though there is confusion following Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar's statement that Aadhaar does not prove citizenship but only identity. No documents will be required to be furnished during the Booth Level Officers' house-to-house verification and collection of forms. Electors can enter their details in the forms if they were voters in 2002-04 or the details of a relative who was an elector then. However, the term "relative" has not been defined.

Revision in Bihar and the row over intent and procedural inconsistencies will loom over round two

Persistent gaps in procedures may work against the rights of genuine voters. That citizens have to prove they are voters is an inherent flaw; people from the poorer and marginalised sections of society may find this harder to comply with. The question of whether the EC can undertake a citizenship test is yet to be answered. In Bihar, the SIR saw a deletion of 47 lakh voters, but the Commission has not provided the reasons for these deletions. Neither the Commission nor the CEC has revealed the number of foreign nationals removed from the rolls after the revision. The disproportionate exclusion of women from the final voters' list has also not been explained. States such as Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and West Bengal have opposed the SIR and criticised it as a move to disenfranchise large sections of people. As the Commission prepares for the next round, it will have to navigate the trust deficit it has created with its actions. This friction and apprehension will cast a shadow over the processes and outcomes of the exercise.

Cooperative law: A case for reform

The High Court's observation that the Karnataka Cooperative Societies (KCS) Act, 1959, and the accompanying Rules of 1960 need an overhaul strikes at the heart of a long-ignored problem: the steady decay of the state's cooperative legal framework, hobbled by decades of piecemeal amendments, internal contradictions, and outdated provisions. Justice Suraj Govindaraj's suggestion that the government frame a new, consolidated Act and Rules is, therefore, both timely and necessary. The cooperative movement has historically played a crucial role in Karnataka's social and economic life – from credit societies and dairies to housing and sugar cooperatives. However, over the years, the law meant to regulate and support them has turned into a maze of conflicting provisions. Each successive government has amended the KCS Act to address narrow, immediate concerns without considering the cascading effects on other sections. The result is a patchwork statute that creates confusion over jurisdiction, elections, audit procedures, and administrative powers. Many of its provisions have been rendered redundant by changes in technology and socio-economic practices.

The High Court's comparison with the Income Tax Act, 1961, which is itself being replaced by the Income Tax Act, 2025, is particularly apt. Just as the Centre acknowledged the futility of patching up an over-amended law, Karnataka too must recognise that its cooperative legislation has outlived its structural coherence. The court has pointed out that co-operatives are now burdened with duplicative filings, sometimes replicating compliance requirements under the Companies Act, 2013. Such overlaps not only waste time and resources but also defeat the principle of cooperative autonomy envisaged under Article 43B of the Constitution, which mandates the state to promote voluntary formation, democratic control, and professional management of cooperatives.

Repairs through amendments won't do. Karnataka's cooperatives need a modern legal framework

The government must treat the High Court's observation not merely as legal advice but as an opportunity for reform. It should immediately constitute an expert committee under the Law Commission to draft a consolidated, modernised Cooperative Societies Act. The new law must simplify procedures, clarify jurisdictions, reduce litigation, and embed transparency and accountability. It should enable cooperatives to embrace technology, allow digital filings, and ensure professional auditing without subjecting them to undue bureaucratic interference. Karnataka's cooperative institutions have long served as instruments of economic democracy, empowering farmers, workers, and small entrepreneurs. But their continued vitality depends on a law that is coherent and contemporary. The High Court has shown the way. It is now up to the government to act with urgency and foresight, and craft a statute that restores the cooperative movement's original spirit of collective empowerment.

BORROWED FUTURES

The silent surge in India's household debt

As easy credit spurs everyday consumption, household savings erode, triggering financial instability

AJIT RANADE

India's households, long regarded as cautious savers, are quietly taking on record levels of debt. According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s Financial Stability Report, household debt in India is 42% of the GDP at the end of 2024, up from just 26% in 2015. Which means that in absolute terms, the total debt is nearly three times bigger. The average debt per individual has jumped 23% in just two years. This means the average debt per person is rising at twice the speed of national income. It has risen from Rs 3.9 lakh in 2023 to Rs 4.8 lakh by March 2025. About 55% of this borrowing comes from non-housing retail loans such as credit-card dues, personal loans, auto loans, and gold loans, while traditional home loans make up only about 29% of the total household debt. Thus, an increasing share of household borrowing is being used not to build assets but to make ends meet. The middle-class and lower-middle-class families who prided themselves on thrift and saving for children's education, gold jewellery, or a small home are borrowing to spend on current consumption.

A rising debt-to-GDP ratio, especially if the borrowing is driven by consumption rather than productive investment, will weaken the foundation of India's long-term sustained growth. India's debt ratio is still much below other developed economies. In Australia and Canada, the household debt is more than 100% of the GDP. But unlike India, these countries have generous social security and old-age-assured income security, reducing their households' need to have high savings. In the US, too, the ratio of household debt to GDP is 75%; it is 63% in China. The memory of the financial crisis caused by housing mortgages in the US and the Evergrande crash in China is, hopefully, not forgotten.

Compared to a potential bubble-like build-up, India's household debt at 42% of the GDP looks manageable. But it has risen steadily for five years, substantially outpacing income growth. A study by the Bank for International Settlements spanning 54 countries found that while higher household debt initially boosts consumption and GDP, beyond a threshold of 60% of GDP, it begins to drag growth down, reducing long-run GDP by 0.1 percentage point for every additional point of debt. India's ratio, though currently lower, is moving in that direction.

The problem is not borrowing per se, but its purpose. Loans for education, housing, or small businesses build future assets. But loans for consumption create no productive capacity. A growing number of households are using credit to pay for everyday expenses such as groceries, utility bills, school fees, or healthcare.

This is seen in the ballooning gold loans. RBI data shows that gold loan portfolios more than doubled between mid-2023 and mid-2025. The growth rate for gold loans was a whopping 122% in July 2025. The bulk of the gold loans from banks are of ticket size of less than Rs 2.5 lakh, for which the RBI has slackened the regulatory limits. The appraisal is lighter, and the loan-to-value ratio is allowed to be as high as 85%. But the RBI is aware of the build-up of bad loans in micro-finance and has tightened regulation there. During this same period, microfinance outstanding loans have dropped by 16.5%, indicating that some of the increase in gold loans is a substitution. It means that lower- and middle-income households who depended on MFIs or unsecured credit are turning to gold loans, which have also been fuelled by soaring gold prices. But a surge in gold loans only signals that households are liquidating last-resort savings to finance consumption or service other debts.

A cultural shift in credit

Two other phenomena cause concern. One is that rural wages have remained stagnant in inflation-adjusted terms. The cost of urban living is rising. Hence, debt has become a coping mechanism. The second is the declining financial savings of households. The net financial savings have declined from 11% of the GDP in FY2021 to 5% in FY2023. There has been a slight improvement in the past two years. The household savings pool has been the bedrock on which both the government's fiscal needs and companies' credit needs are financed. With declining savings, these will become costlier to finance.

Some of this also reflects a shift in credit culture. The aggregate savings rate is down from a peak of 36% to about 30% of the GDP. There are aspirations for higher living standards. Digital credit is easy to access, and there is perhaps a post-pandemic desire for instant gratification. Consumer loans have been outpacing bank credit growth for the past five years. Credit card spending has increased 13 times in 13 years. Younger, salaried consumers are borrowing heavily against future income to sustain present lifestyles. At the same time, lower-income and rural households, facing stagnant earnings, are turning to gold and small personal loans to manage essential spending.

Credit expansion boosts demand and growth in consumer goods. But it makes households vulnerable to shocks from job loss, illness, or crop failure. It crowds out financial savings, making credit costlier. Beyond a point, it increases financial system stress. If left unchecked, it can erode the very resilience that once defined Indian households. Reversing the slide requires restoring the habit of financial savings, raising real incomes, and ensuring that borrowed money builds tomorrow's assets, not just today's consumption. It requires regulating aggressive consumer lending. It needs to encourage loans for education, homes, and MSMEs. India's households, once the quiet financiers of both growth and government, must be restored to financial health, which can be achieved by returning to traditional values of caution and thrift rather than leaving them on the path to distress and debt.

(The writer is an economist; Syndicate: The Billion Press)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

A close shave with politics

A notice on the wall kept a Sunday shave from turning into disaster

C V ARAVIND

Every time I step into a salon for a haircut or a shave—or both—I pause for a minute and wonder what would happen if all the barbers of the world decided to abdicate their responsibilities and move to more lucrative occupations. One can shave off a beard cleanly without leaving even a stubble, but trimming a scraggy mass of hair and shaping it into a magnificent Van Dyke or even a neat goatee really requires an expert pair of hands. If you insist on self-service, you could be left with a face that resembles a gargoyle. And about a self-administered haircut --the less said the better; those who have experimented with that hair-brained idea can vouch for it.

As for me, I have done neither. I always walk into the saloon down the street where the barbers are friendly, sociable sorts and tariffs do not leave a huge hole in the pocket. After all, not everyone is a Rajnikant or a Shahrukh Khan who can hire a celebrity hairstylist -- Aalim Hakim, it is rumoured, charges a cool Rs 1 lakh (plus GST, of course) for a haircut.

I generally strike up a conversation with the barber who works on my hair and beard -- it takes the pressure off his work, especially when a queue of patrons are waiting their turn on Sundays and holidays.

I have always been very careful about the topics I bring up, but the other day my barber, who usually steers clear of politics, posed a question about the political scenario in the state, referring directly to a recent development. I was in a fix; I had no idea which side of the fence he was on, but that was the least of my worries.

The query came when his razor was inches from my jugular vein-- within kissing distance, to be more precise-- and the situation felt delicate in the extreme. Any answer contradictory to what he was expecting could have had disastrous consequences. Fortunately, luck was on my side that day -- perhaps the Maker had not yet decided whether to recall me to his Kingdom of Heaven. I quickly drew his attention to a notice posted on the wall opposite where I was being, shall we say, tortured. The sign read, in no uncertain terms, "NO POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS PLEASE".

The barber—the same man who had pasted that notice—sheepishly looked at me, let the question pass and went back to his work. That was a hair-raising experience in more ways than one. It seemed to sharpen his concentration: every strand stood upright as fear briefly gripped my soul and sweat poured down my back. In the end he did a fine job.

PS: I still go to the same salon. I now carry a small razor -- purely for self-defence in case of an emergency.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EC is wiser after Bihar, but doubts over SIR persist

Apropos 'After Bihar, EC to conduct SIR in 12 states and UTs' (Oct 28), the Election Commission of India, in the second phase of its planned nationwide exercise of special intensive revision of voter rolls, has fine-tuned the process in many ways, drawing from its experience with the hasty and flawed exercise in Bihar. It has now removed the need for submitting documents at the enumeration stage and also allowed a family member to sign the form on behalf of an absentee. A large number of applicants, however, will likely be asked to submit one of the eligibility documents at the verification round. Regarding Aadhaar, the EC continues to maintain its reluctance by calling it only a proof of identity, raising doubts about its acceptance as a standalone document. The sword of mass disenfranchisement still hangs over families who have migrated temporarily for work and who, for various reasons, were unable to file their forms digitally. Despite the refinement, the character of the exercise continues to be exclusionary, not inclusive.
Kamal Laddha, Bengaluru

Wake-up call to all states

The horrific fire that engulfed a private sleeper bus from Hyderabad to Bengaluru, resulting in the deaths of at least 19 people, is symptomatic of gross neglect and a mindset of lack of concern by the authorities for basic human safety, turning buses into death traps. The statistics of such accidents since 2023 are only symbolic of the larger malaise that afflicts the system. It speaks of neglect of maintenance, lack of control over checking passengers carrying inflammable material, and disregard for a fail-safe approach to emergency escape routes, which has taken a horrendous toll on passengers. While sleeper coaches are meant to provide facilities for night sleep, they have literally been turned into narrow bunkers to accommodate more passengers by greedy owners. Another factor often neglected is over-worked, sleep-deprived drivers. The tragedy must serve as a wake-up call to all state authorities.
H R Bapu Satyanarayana, Mysuru

Spare the premium

The GST on vehicles has been reduced recently, and the government is releasing advertisements daily to highlight this. However, this reduction was unwarranted, as major cities are already struggling with uncontrollable traffic, congestion, and parking problems. Instead, the GST on premiums for medical group policies should have been reduced, which would have benefited senior citizens and pensioners. It appears that the government has failed to assess the requirements of the common people.
S Shashidhar, Bengaluru

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

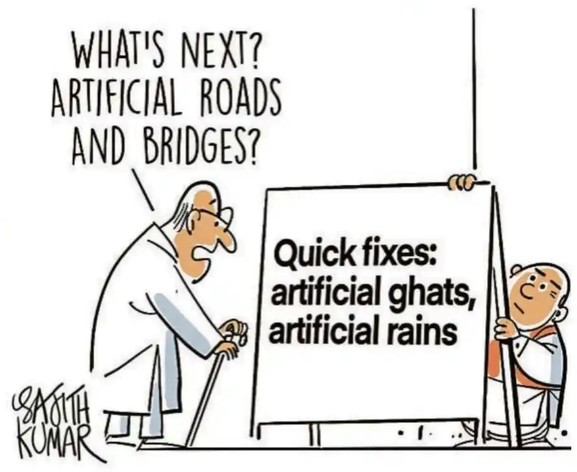
SPEAK OUT

All infiltrators from Bangladesh have already come here (UP). Should they not be removed? How can they be considered voters? This is all genuine. How can anyone doubt the Election Commission? Infiltrators have even influenced elections in Bengal.

Ravi Kishan, BJP MP

Fear is the foundation of most governments.
John Adams

TO BE PRECISE



IN PERSPECTIVE

Rare earth race: Advantage China

China's controls on exports push the US to pursue new partnerships and independent supply chains

ABHISHEK SHARMA

On October 9, the Chinese Ministry of Commerce announced a set of new export controls related to rare earth elements. They also included restrictions on rare earth processing technologies, related to mining, smelting, separation, recycling, and utilisation. Such export controls and restrictions are not unprecedented, and have been announced earlier by Beijing. However, they are the most severe given their expanse and subsequent checks and balances. These restrictions will take effect on November 8, before the truce with the US ends.

By announcing these restrictions, China has sent a clear message to the US and its allies that it will not hesitate to weaponise its dominance in the rare earth supply chain if pushed to the wall. Three primary considerations drive the rationale behind curbing rare earth exports: disrupting US industrial supply chains, gaining the upper hand in trade negotiations, and strategic signalling to the US and its allies, Europe, Korea, and Japan. China has doubled down on the licence regime to strengthen these controls further, asking all companies to share granular information, including customer details, manufacturing diagrams, pictures with mineral placements, and annual production data. Additionally, for the first time, China has refined the 'de-minims rule', implementing the extraterritorial application of export controls, warning countries against violating rare earth export rules.

While some experts will interpret Beijing's actions as mere political signalling, the case is bigger. Chinese export controls have now become a part of its foreign policy calculations, a weapon that emerges when Beijing feels threatened. Therefore, given their importance for US industries, Beijing has used the tool tactfully, similar to how it weaponised the export of strategic items such as construction machinery to India.

These restrictions have impacted major US manufacturing sectors, particularly automobiles and clean energy, which consume a lot of minerals. One sector that has been hit hard is its defence manufacturing. Additionally, post-December, Beijing is expected to reject licences for defence firms. We have already seen exports to the US decline by 27% year on year this September.

In the face of increasing restrictions on minerals and their processing technologies, the US has reacted swiftly. The Trump administration's strategy to counter Beijing's action is based on two critical pillars: ensuring optimal utilisation of domestic reserves for industries, and forging a mineral security partnership with allies and partners.

Some of the deals sealed by the US government recently underline its serious commitment to enhancing mineral security. The $400 million strategic investment in MP Materials, $35 million investment in Trilogy Metals Inc., and $435 million investment in Lithium Americas are a few examples that point to the administration's efforts at encouraging domestic manufacturing. Besides, the US has also finalised deals with resource-rich countries, including Australia and Malaysia. While these efforts, supported by a backstop agreement and floor commitment for ten years, are vital, they alone cannot yet produce rare earths at scale and competitive prices. Additionally, the process will remain costly, unsustainable, and at the mercy of Beijing's whims and fancies.

Dialogue and diplomacy

Besides, US efforts at forging a strategic partnership with a country like Malaysia are already facing stiff competition from Beijing. Here, China is also playing a smart strategy. To develop a rare earth ecosystem, it has extended support to establish an alternative ecosystem undercutting the efforts of the US and its allies, such as Australia. For this, Beijing has reached out to countries like Malaysia, which has 16.1 million tonnes of rare earth deposits, offering its processing technologies, albeit with conditions. If the deal is signed, China will have access to Malaysian deposits, safeguarding its processing technology and strategically restricting its competitors' plans.

Therefore, the US's diplomatic efforts may secure some respite in the long term, but they would be of little help in fixing the existing bottlenecks. The US's mercantilist diplomacy further makes any prospects of strategic collaboration to establish a resilient mineral supply chain more challenging. Given the fragmented initiative, Beijing will always be more commanding than the US.

Irrespective of these recent restrictions, China has also clarified that it is "ready to strengthen exchanges and dialogue with all parties on export controls", leaving room for negotiations. Trump's upcoming dialogue on the sidelines of the APEC Summit with Xi will show whether the US can get a deal, including one on rare earths. If it happens, it will emphasise China's win; if not, the US will need to give more.

(The writer is a junior fellow, Indo-Pacific, with the Strategic Studies Programme, Observer Research Foundation)

From idea to impact: Nobel insights for India's innovation journey

KEDAR VISHNU

Three economists—Prof Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt—were awarded the 2025 Nobel Prize in Economics on October 13 for their groundbreaking research on innovation-driven economic growth. Their work serves as a lighthouse for countries seeking resilient and sustainable development at a time when economic uncertainty and inequality are on the rise globally.

Understanding this year's Nobel recognition is especially important when the world economy is becoming increasingly protectionist, global trade is disrupted by tariffs and non-tariff barriers, knowledge sharing is under scrutiny, and geopolitical tensions are escalating.

Prof Mokyr received half of the prize for his seminal research, which explains the conditions necessary for long-term economic expansion driven by technological advancement. His work explains how scientific innovations lead to new technologies, which in turn spur further research -- generating an ongoing cycle of innovation that supports sustained growth. Mokyr demonstrates that economic progress is more likely to occur in societies open to new ideas. He argues that before the Industrial Revolution, people understood *how* things worked but not *why*. The Scientific Revolution of the 16th and 17th centuries changed this, as scientists began conducting rigorous experiments and measurements to answer both *how* and *why*. This shift, he notes, nurtured originality and creativity — and laid the foundation for modern economic growth.

Professors Aghion and Howitt shared the other half of the prize for their groundbreaking 1992 work that formalised the concept of "creative destruction". This process of creative destruction occurs when a new product enters the market due to innovation, and existing products lose market share. The innovation is creative since it represents something novel. However, it is harmful for those companies whose technology becomes outdated, as they lose out to competitors. Prof Aghion's research has helped many countries' governments promote more innovation while increasing healthy competition.

In the meantime, his long-time colleague, Prof Howitt, was involved in developing a strong, formal framework based on Prof Joseph Schumpeter's concept of creative destruction, which forms the foundation of modern growth economics. Two laureates translated Schumpeter's concept into a mathematical framework through endogenous growth theory, demonstrating that sustained economic growth is not driven by external causes but may be generated by innovation, education, and research originating within the economy.

Last year's Nobel Prize recognised three institutional economists for their groundbreaking work on how formal and informal institutions shape national prosperity. This year's laureates have deepened the conversation, focusing on innovation-driven economic growth and exploring why some countries are able to foster innovation while others lag behind.

How innovation transformed the UK and Sweden

The three laureates' work also helps explain why industrialised nations, such as Sweden and the United Kingdom (UK), have enjoyed remarkably stable long-term economic development. Between 1300 and 1700, new ideas and inventions in these countries had little lasting impact on economic performance and growth. However, by the early 19th century, both nations began to experience sustained economic growth in GDP per capita. Except for a few major downturns and crises, such as the Great Depression in the 1930s, growth rather than stagnation became the new normal. This pattern of consistent spreading out, averaging around 2% per year, immediately spread across the majority of the industrialised world, renovating economies and raising living standards. Their research has helped us better understand how innovation developed, what enabled it, and how society's receptivity to new ideas made a big difference in bringing about difference. According to them, the UK's early steady growth was attributed to the large number of highly qualified engineers and craftspeople residing there.

The three laureates' research is particularly relevant to India, which has experienced a significant increase in per capita income over the past few decades, following years of stagnant growth. India's success in digital technology, medicine, and renewable energy can be attributed to technological innovation and improvement. However, we fall short in prioritising research and development, innovation, and high-quality research intensity. This can be easily recognised while looking at a few critical economic indicators. Sweden is ranked second globally, whereas India is ranked 38th out of 139 economies for the Global Innovation Index 2025. Similarly, in 2024–2025, Sweden spent 3.6% of its GDP on R&D, a significantly larger percentage than India's 0.64%. The sustainable economic growth of many developed countries is driven by innovation and their emphasis on technology.

In its labs and university teaching, India must foster a true culture of curiosity and promote critical thinking and unconventional thinking. If not, we will not be able to use our youthful brains and demographic dividend to spur innovation. India also needs to promote innovation in rural economies and agriculture—sectors where the country holds an absolute advantage, as suggested by Adam Smith and Ricardo's theories. It is essential to support local enterprises and develop more processing industries within the rural economy. These sectors have largely failed to benefit from innovation and are in urgent need of a transformative solution. India needs to ensure the promotion of innovation, reduce market dominance, reduce the asymmetric information gap in innovation and facilitate the transfer of knowledge.

(The writer is an associate professor of economics at Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Bengaluru)

The kingdom is pouring money into data centres and working with US and Chinese tech giants, landing its AI ambitions in the middle of a geopolitical tussle for tech power

Oil-rich Saudi Arabia wants to be known as the AI exporter

ADAM SATARIANO AND PAUL MOZUR

In northwest Saudi Arabia near the Red Sea, a planned $5 billion data centre would provide enough computing muscle for coders as far away as Europe to build artificial intelligence. On the country's opposite coast, another planned multibillion-dollar complex could be used by AI developers in Asia and Africa. For generations, Saudi Arabia exported oil. Now it wants to export one of the digital era's most coveted resources: computing power.

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman is seizing a chance to turn Saudi Arabia's oil wealth into tech influence. Few nations can match the kingdom's cheap energy, deep pockets and open land — the ingredients that tech firms need to operate the vast, power-hungry data centres that run modern AI.

Already, Saudi Arabia has been negotiating with US tech giants about using its future data centres and deepening their ties. Executives from OpenAI, Google, Qualcomm, Intel and Oracle are attending the country's annual Future Investment Initiative conference that began Monday, nicknamed Davos in the Desert. Next month, Crown Prince Mohammed is scheduled to visit the United States.

One potential deal in the works would provide computing power to Elon Musk's xAI, said Saeed Al-Dobas, a senior executive at Humain, a new state-backed company coordinating many AI projects.

"Amazon was here yesterday. Microsoft we had this morning," he said in an interview this month, adding that what was being negotiated with Musk was a "way, way bigger plan."

Crown Prince Mohammed created Humain in May and wants it to handle about 6% of the world's AI workload in the coming years. That could take Saudi Arabia, which handles less than 1% now, from bit player to trailing only the United States and China in providing computing power, according to Synergy Research Group, which studies the data centre industry.

The kingdom is building three major data centre complexes aimed at foreign companies, which could be at least 30% cheaper for AI work than the US, Saudi executives said. Construction permits are granted in weeks, and undersea cables and fibre-optic networks put roughly four billion people on three continents within reach of the hubs.

To overcome security concerns in the authoritarian state, Saudi Arabia is also considering "data embassy" zones, where foreign firms could operate under their own national laws rather than Saudi law.

Amazon said it was working with Humain to "accelerate Saudi Arabia's vision to become a global AI leader." Microsoft declined to comment, and xAI did not respond to requests for comment.

Many are sceptical that Saudi Arabia can deliver. The kingdom has a shallow pool of AI expertise. Some warn of a global glut in computing capacity as governments and companies race to build data centres faster than they can profit from them.

"You can never say never, but I can't imagine any circumstances that would enable Saudi to achieve 6% of the world's AI compute capacity," said John Dinsdale, a senior analyst for Synergy.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

As an oil exporter, the kingdom has benefited from collaborating with energy-rich countries through OPEC+, the oil-producers cartel. In AI, no such cooperation exists, and Saudi Arabia trails in a regional race against the United Arab Emirates, which announced a multibillion-dollar project with OpenAI in Abu Dhabi this year.

The kingdom's plans also test a US foreign policy that uses access to advanced AI chips to steer nations away from China. During President Donald Trump's visit to Riyadh in May, US firms like Nvidia were given the go-ahead to sell AI chips to Saudi Arabia. But Washington has yet to issue final clearance amid concerns over Riyadh's ties to Beijing.

Crown Prince Mohammed has been careful not to pick sides in the US-Chinese tussle. The kingdom has deep ties to Trump—most recently becoming partners with Jared Kushner, his son-in-law, on a $55 billion deal for the video game company Electronic Arts — while welcoming Chinese investment. DeepSeek, the Chinese AI company, uses data centres owned by Aramco, the Saudi state oil giant.

In August 2024, Tareq Amin, an Aramco executive, got a call at 2 am while on a birthday trip in Dubai, UAE. "You need to fly back to Riyadh," he was told.

The caller was an aide for Crown Prince Mohammed, who wanted to meet immediately with business and government leaders to discuss Saudi Arabia's AI strategy, Amin said. He boarded a flight a few hours later and drove straight to the royal court in Riyadh.

After the 2024 meeting, Crown Prince Mohammed started Humain to be the AI equivalent of Aramco. Backed by Saudi Arabia's roughly $1 trillion sovereign wealth fund, Humain combined AI initiatives underway with expansions into new areas. In May, the company said it would build data centres, invest in startups and develop AI services. Crown Prince Mohammed made himself chair, and Amin was appointed CEO.

"I knew that we were behind in every facet," Amin said. "The goal is to create a national entity that is focused on the AI total value chain."

Since then, Humain has announced deals to buy semiconductors from Nvidia, AMD and Qualcomm. It struck a $5 billion deal with Amazon to build AI infrastructure. It also released a self-described "helpful and harmless" Arabic chatbot that avoids delicate political and cultural issues, as well as an AI laptop and a tool that takes notes during meetings.

Qualcomm said it saw Saudi Arabia as "a digital bridge between continents." Nvidia said the agreements supported US interests, while AMD said partnering with Humain drove "US leadership in the global AI race."

Human rights concerns, once a deterrent for some companies, have largely faded. Saudi Arabia is betting that tech firms will not be able to resist its cheap electricity, which would make AI less expensive to build and deploy.

"If you lower the cost by 20 to 40% and offer this to a global market, people will come," Amin said.

The kingdom is expanding its electrical grid, and Humain said its sites near Riyadh and Dammam, in the Eastern province, would deliver 6.6 gigawatts of capacity by 2034, which would require the equivalent of more than six nuclear reactors to power. DataVolt, a company owned by a Saudi industrial conglomerate, is building the data centre next to the Red Sea that will be phased in starting in 2028.

"Right now there are two epicentres — the United States of America and China," said Rajit Nanda, DataVolt's CEO. "There's room for someone to be the third epicentre and the fourth epicentre."

Saudi Arabia's plans could be derailed by one major hurdle: US-made AI semiconductors, which power data centres but are scarce and difficult to obtain.

To get the components, Saudi Arabia needs Trump's support. This year, as Saudi officials prepared for Trump's trip to the Persian Gulf, they participated in talks in Washington to broker purchases of AI chips. When Trump visited Riyadh in May, Humain was given a preliminary go-ahead to buy 18,000 AI chips from Nvidia, with more to follow.

The New York Times

The voice that still leads: Remembering Zubeen Garg

SHUKLA BOSE

Now that the clamour of grief over Zubeen Garg's passing has quietened, the question remains: what of him must endure? Crowds have dispersed, hashtags have faded, but the lessons of his life are not to be shelved alongside memory. To mourn him is natural; to carry forward his spirit is essential.

The sudden death of Zubeen Garg more than a month ago shook Assam and the wider music world. Streets filled with mourners, social media became a sea of tributes, and voices across generations sang his songs in unison. This was more than the farewell to a beloved singer; it was the recognition of a cultural leader who shaped the imagination of an entire people.

At a time when fame often creates distance, Zubeen refused to detach. He lived in the same house, among the same neighbours, and knew them by name. He was fearless both in his art and his convictions. He told young people again and again: if you are on the right path, there is no reason to fear. These were not empty words; they were principles he lived by.

He spurned the easy lure of wealth of Bollywood and reminded his audiences that truth and meaning mattered more than profit. For him, an artist was never just an entertainer but a custodian of society's conscience.

That sense of responsibility made him different. In a world where art is often commodified and silence rewarded, Zubeen used his platform to speak uncomfortable truths.

He became a voice of Assamese identity at a time when cultural confidence mattered deeply. His songs like *Ei Prithibi* were not just melodies but rallying cries. With *Ya Ali*, which carried his voice across India and beyond, he showed that Assamese music could be global without losing its roots.

His power lay in authenticity. He never wore a mask, never created a public persona separate from the man. His simplicity disarmed, his generosity touched lives, and his honesty won trust. Audiences felt he belonged to them, that his songs contained fragments of their own struggles, loves, and hopes. This was why his music mobilised people more effectively than any political speech could.

He also took responsibility beyond music. He raised his voice for Assam's forests and rivers, for cultural preservation, and for issues that many celebrities avoided. Controversies came, but he showed that leadership is not about pleasing everyone—it is about conviction.

And there was his quiet philanthropy. Few knew he had adopted 15 underprivileged children, because he never turned charity into performance. In an era when generosity is often measured in Instagram posts, Zubeen gave quietly, as naturally as he sang. That too was leadership—values lived, not displayed.

His death revealed how deeply he was woven into people's lives. But it also exposed a flaw in us: why do we wait until our heroes are gone to recognise their worth? In today's world of fleeting trends and instant celebrity, courage, integrity, and generosity rarely make headlines. Zubeen embodied them all. He was celebrated in life, but the flood of recognition after his passing showed how much more we could have honoured him while he was here.

Leadership, he showed, does not only belong to politicians or CEOs. It can come from a song, from courage in the face of pressure, from generosity practised in silence. His life is a reminder that true leadership is not measured in titles or followers, but in the ability to stir hearts, speak truth, and remain fearless when it matters most.

As the clamour of mourning fades, Zubeen Garg must not be reduced to nostalgia. To truly honour him is to carry forward his lessons: that art is a responsibility, not just a career; that truth matters more than profit; that simplicity, honesty, and generosity are leadership in their purest form.

His voice will echo in Assam for generations, but it is his message that must live on. And perhaps the best tribute we can pay him is this: to learn to celebrate our living heroes now, before it is too late.

(The writer is the founder and CEO of the Parikrma Humanity Foundation)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: OCTOBER 1975

Govt will step in if mills don't reduce cloth prices

New Delhi, Oct. 28
The cotton textile industry was today warned by Commerce Minister D. P. Chattopadhyaya that the Government would step in to bring down the prices of cloth in line with the fall in the prices of major inputs, if the industry did not do it voluntarily. The Minister, who was addressing the 11th annual general meeting of the Northern India Cotton Textile Mills' Association, noted that the prices of cotton had been falling steadily since January, 1974. "The prices of cloth had also declined during this period, though not as much as would have been," he said.

25 YEARS AGO: OCTOBER 2000

Jyoti Basu decides to resign in November

Calcutta, Oct 28
Jyoti Basu, the world's longest serving chief minister belonging to a Communist party, today announced that he would like to call it a day sometime in the first week of November next, but intend to serve the party "till death" as a true and sincere comrade. Mr Basu said that he has received the crucial nod from the party's top hierarchy to push ahead with his retirement plan and the Left Front meeting slated here tomorrow would discuss it before finalising the date of the swearing-in of the new Council of Ministers to be headed by Deputy Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharya.

OASIS | ANANTHAPADMANABHAN

Don't just age, flourish

A life of purpose and joy doesn't have to start with a grand plan. Instead, it is enough to begin with a single, deliberate choice — the decision to rewrite our story, no matter what stage we are in. While growing older often brings a sense of loss — of youth, strength, and old friendships—it is easy to mourn what once was. But what if ageing isn't about what is taken away, but a profound opportunity to become more of who we were always meant to be?

The truth of this is embodied by 72-year-old Selvamani, who was recently in the news for enrolling in an electrical engineering diploma programme at a government polytechnic college. After his daughters were settled and he could have slipped into a quiet retirement, he chose to reignite his lifelong passion for technical knowledge.

Imagine a senior citizen travelling 50 km every day, juggling his studies with the responsibility of caring for his ailing wife.

His story is a powerful reminder that purpose is not something we stumble upon; it is something we pursue with unwavering commitment, even in the face of significant challenges. His life stands as a beacon, showing us that the human spirit's capacity for growth has no age limit and that dreams deferred are not necessarily dreams denied.

A recent study found that happiness often comes before a sense of purpose, suggesting that feeling good provides a stable emotional foundation. This foundation allows people to take risks and pursue deeper, more meaningful goals. We can use happiness from both big and small victories to fuel our pursuit of purpose, creating a virtuous cycle of fulfillment. The challenges of life are real, but our attitude is a choice.

This inspiring journey, much like that of Raj Kumar Vaishya, who earned his Master's degree at 97, and Jay Kishore Pradhan, who cleared the NEET exam at 64, shows us that for many, retirement is not a full stop. It is an invitation to continue a life of purpose and intellectual curiosity. It is a testament to the cultural value placed on knowledge and the recognition that learning is a lifelong pursuit.

We can let time happen to us, or we can see it as a new phase, a final and most glorious act. Don't just get older; get wiser and flourish.

Remember, our best story is still waiting to be written, and it begins the moment we decide to live a life of purpose and joy.

REVISION ROW: Ruling CPM, Oppn Congress allege attempt to sabotage electoral process

Kerala parties, NRIs raise alarm over hasty SIR bid

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

ROLL CALL OR ROLL OUT?

- NRIs fear exclusion from rolls due to absence during verification
- Many NRI homes in Kerala remain shut, complicating verification
- EC says documents can be submitted online, but NRIs cite confusion
- State Chief Electoral Officer to meet party leaders today

The ruling CPM, the Opposition Congress and Kerala's sizeable NRI population have raised concerns over the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls scheduled to begin on November 4.

While political parties allege that the exercise is being hastily initiated at the behest of the BJP-led Centre to sabotage a fair electoral process, the NRI community fears that many of its members could be excluded from the rolls due to their absence from the state during the revision period.

Indian Overseas Congress Middle East convener Mansoor Palloor said many NRIs living abroad for employment, education or family reasons may not be present at their registered addresses in India when booth-level officers visit for verification. They may miss official notices and fail to respond in time, potentially leading to their exclusion from the electoral rolls.

Scores of NRIs are settled abroad with families, leaving their homes in Kerala closed for extended periods.

Document ambiguity

While Election Commission authorities maintain that NRIs can submit documents online, Palloor said many are concerned about the lack of clarity regarding which documents are required.

"Notices, forms and verification messages often rely on postal delivery or in-person visits. NRIs, by their very nature, depend on electronic and online communication, which currently lacks a reliable and standardised mechanism under the SIR. The absence of remote or digital verification protocols effectively excludes overseas citizens from the process. Being outside the state's day-to-day administrative system, NRIs are less empowered and less informed about redressal or appeal mechanisms if their names are omitted," Palloor told *DH*.

'Vested interests': CM

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said in a statement that conducting the SIR based on the 2002 electoral roll violates established norms. He also criticised the EC for showing undue haste in implementing the revision in Kerala, even as local body polls approach and the Supreme Court is reviewing the SIR process in Bihar.

"This could be driven by vested interests. Kerala firmly opposes this attempt to undermine democracy and calls for united resistance to defend it," he said.

Opposition leader VD Satheesan of the Congress alleged that the EC was colluding with the BJP's agenda to sabotage a fair electoral process.

"People who have been voting since 2002 now face the threat of being struck off the rolls," he said.

Kerala Chief Electoral Officer Rathan U Kelkar is scheduled to meet representatives of political parties on Wednesday to discuss SIR in the state.

Posters of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin and his deputy Udhayanidhi put up at the venue of the DMK's training session titled 'My Polling Booth, Winning Booth', at Mamallapuram in Chengalpattu district. PTI

'BJP's ploy to facilitate AIADMK win'

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

DMK President M K Stalin on Tuesday alleged that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Tamil Nadu is part of the BJP's "ploy to facilitate" the AIADMK's win in the 2026 assembly polls by removing the working class, women, Dalits, and minority communities from the voters' list.

Addressing a training programme on booth management for over 2,500 DMK functionaries at Mamallapuram near here, Stalin said the BJP's "daydream" of governing Tamil Nadu through its proxy (read AIADMK) or on its own will "never come true" as long as the DMK exists. He also accused the BJP of trying "new shortcuts" to win elections in the state despite knowing that these attempts would only end in failure.

Terming the 2026 assembly polls as the one that will protect Tamil Nadu from the "AIADMK-BJP gang", the Chief Minister said the reason why he continues to emphasise winning next year's election was important because enemies from within and outside have "ganged up" to destroy the state, its language, and pride. At the same time, Stalin expressed the hope that the DMK-led Secular Progressive Alliance's (SPA) winning streak since 2019 polls will continue next year as well.

After the training program, the functionaries will fan out across the state to hold meetings about the importance of booths, especially in the context of 2026 elections, to prepare booth agents battle-ready. The training session was attended by MPs, MLAs, district secretaries, taluk secretaries, and heads of units at the city and town levels.

Devoting a major portion of his speech on the SIR, which will begin in Tamil Nadu next week, Stalin said the RSS-BJP's "tactic" of intimidation through the exercise won't work in Tamil Nadu. He recalled that the DMK and its allies opposed the SIR in Bihar as it disenfranchised over 6.5 million people and said the "BJP's puppet ECI" was trying the same here.

"They are thinking that if they remove working-class people, Dalits, minorities, and women from the voters' list via SIR, they and their ally AIADMK can win. They dream to win the state through disenfranchisement as they don't have the courage to meet people," Stalin added.

While reiterating that the DMK was not opposed to the revision of the voter list, Stalin said the party was only insisting that the exercise must be done in a "fair and transparent manner" and not in haste.

Trinamool accuses BJP of fear politics after NRC-linked death

KOLKATA, DHNS: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday accused the BJP of indulging in "politics of fear and division" following the death by suicide of a man allegedly distressed over the prospect of a National Register of Citizens (NRC) exercise in the state, similar to neighbouring Assam.

A day after the Election Commission announced the launch of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in 12 states and Union Territories, including West Bengal, the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) used the death of 57-year-old Pradeep Kar from Panihati in North 24 Parganas to target the BJP and the Centre. Kar reportedly left a suicide note blaming the NRC for his death.

'Invisible rigging'

Trinamool Congress general secretary Abhishek Banerjee alleged that the SIR was a form of "silent, invisible rigging" aimed at disenfranchising genuine citizens to benefit the BJP.

He warned that the TMC would mobilise at least one lakh people from West Bengal to protest outside the EC headquarters in New Delhi if the process led to the removal of legitimate voters.

He also dismissed the BJP's claim that the SIR would lead to the ouster of Mamata's party in next year's Assembly elections by striking off names of alleged illegal migrants from Bangladesh and Myanmar who had made it to the electoral rolls and voted for the ruling party.

"We will win more seats than we did in 2021, and the BJP's tally will drop to 50," he said, criticising the Election Commission for launching the SIR exclusively in West Bengal, despite the India-Bangladesh border running through four other states — Meghalaya, Assam, Tripura and Mizoram.

In the 2021 elections, the TMC retained power by winning 215 of the 294 seats. The BJP, meanwhile, saw its tally rise from just three seats in 2016 to 77 in 2021.

ABHISHEK BANERJEE
Trinamool general secretary

"The BJP's allied organisation has announced SIR yesterday. This process is not about inclusion but exclusion. Earlier, people used to elect the government. Now, this BJP government wants to select who will vote or not. If there are discrepancies in electoral rolls, then the Lok Sabha should be dissolved and fresh elections should be held.

PAWAN KHERA
Senior Congress leader

"What about the difficulties faced during SIR in Bihar? What happened to the replies that we are expecting from the EC on the issues raised by us during SIR in Bihar? The Supreme Court had to intervene in it... In fact, the EC has lost its credibility. The EC must also clarify whether it would follow the 2003 guidelines while conducting the SIR in more states.

Aaditya alleges vote theft in Worli; BJP hits back

MUMBAI, DHNS: Taking forward Rahul Gandhi's 'vote chori' campaign against the Election Commission and the BJP, Shiv Sena (UBT) MLA Aaditya Thackeray flagged anomalies in the voters' list from the Worli seat, which he has been representing for two terms.

Aaditya Thackeray

However, the BJP reacted sharply. "I know Aaditya... however, I didn't expect him to do 'Pappugiri'. His presentation yesterday was a replica of what Rahul Gandhi had done earlier. He shouldn't try to become Maharashtra's Pappu. All that the Opposition is doing is cover firing," Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said.

Aaditya made the allegations on Monday and Tuesday, during which he claimed to have found 19,333 voter anomalies in the post-election study.

The charges come ahead of the November 1 Mumbai rally by Opposition parties.

In a presentation, Aaditya said that Opposition had been constantly saying that elections in India haven't been held in a free and fair way by the EC. "We exposed voter fraud in Worli, where we've found 19,333 voter anomalies in our post-election study. If this were the case in my constituency, imagine the vote fraud done by those in the current government, across the state," said Aaditya.

After Sukhoi, Prez Murmu to take Rafale sortie today

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Nearly six months after the Indian Air Force's Rafale combat aircraft played a key role in Operation Sindoor, President Droupadi Murmu will take a sortie in the French-origin jet at Ambala Air Force Station on Wednesday.

Droupadi Murmu

This would be the second fighter jet sortie for President Murmu – the supreme commander of the armed forces – after her April 8, 2023, flight in a Su-30MKI aircraft at Tezpur air force station, the Union government said in a press statement.

Former presidents A P J Abdul Kalam and Pratibha Patil had undertaken sorties in Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft at the Air Force Station, Lohegaon near Pune on June 8, 2006 and November 25, 2009, respectively.

Delhi conducts cloud seeding trials after five decades

NEW DELHI, PTI: After a gap of 53 years, Delhi conducted cloud seeding trials on Tuesday to induce artificial rain in the national capital amid surging pollution levels, even as the weather department did not record any traces of rainfall till evening.

The Delhi government, in collaboration with IIT-Kanpur, conducted the trials in parts of Delhi, including Burari, north Karol Bagh, Mayur Vihar, Badli, with more such exercises planned over the next few days, Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa said.

Environmentalists, however, termed the cloud-seeding trial a short-term measure, saying it may temporarily reduce pollution but fails to address the root causes of the capital's deteriorating air quality.

AAP mocked the exercise, calling it a tactic to "steal Lord Indra's (rain god's) credit". BJP hailed the move to tackle pollution crisis.

Amoeba infection: ICMR steps in

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has launched a field study in Kerala to investigate the rising incidence of amoebic meningoencephalitis in the state.

So far this year, the state has reported 144 cases and 30 deaths linked to the infection, with the exact sources remaining unclear in many instances.

Against this backdrop, the ICMR–National Institute of Epidemiology, in collaboration with the state health department, has begun fieldwork in Kozhikode. The study will be extended to other districts where cases have been reported.

Kerala Health Minister Veena George said the state health department, along with other agencies, has already been conducting technical workshops and studies on amoebic meningoencephalitis. The ongoing field study by ICMR is a continuation of these efforts.

Amoebic meningoencephalitis is a rare but deadly brain infection caused by free-living amoebae, also known as the "brain-eating amoeba".

First case in 2016

The first case in Kerala was reported in 2016, when a child in Alappuzha succumbed to the infection. Until 2023, the state had recorded only eight cases.

In 2024, the numbers spiked to 36 cases and nine deaths. This year, it has surged to 144 cases with 30 fatalities.

Though most of those who succumbed to the infection were found to be infected with the Naegleria fowleri variant of the amoeba, health authorities have not detected its presence in any of Kerala's waterbodies.

While the amoebic brain infection is known to have a fatality rate exceeding 95%, Kerala has managed to reduce mortality through early detection and timely treatment protocols.

Odisha activates shelters as Montha triggers landslides; TN schools shut

Over 2k shelters set up to accommodate affected people

BHUBANESWAR/CHENNAI, DHNS & PTI

A view of a partially submerged idol of Lord Shiva in the wake of a flood-like situation after Odisha's Baghalati Dam gates were lifted, in Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh, on Tuesday. PTI

The severe cyclonic storm Montha on Tuesday brought heavy rain in coastal and southern Odisha districts, causing landslides and damaging houses besides uprooting trees, officials said.

The landfall of Montha started Kakinada in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh about 7 pm and the process will continue for three to four hours, the Met office said.

The preliminary reports of damages were received from eight southern Odisha districts of Malkangiri, Koraput, Rayagada, Gajapati, Ganjam, Kandhamal, Kalahandi and Nabarangpur. Normal life, however, was affected in a total of 15 districts in the region.

Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi reviewed the state's preparation for the possible impact of the storm. He said that over 2,000 cyclone shelters were set up to accommodate the affected people and the government has set the "Zero Casualty" goal.

Several parts of Chennai and its neighbouring districts of Tiruvallur, Kanchipuram, and Chengalpattu received widespread rainfall on Monday night and Tuesday.

Schools in Chennai, Tiruvallur, and Ranipet districts were closed on Tuesday due to the intense rainfall.

As the rains continued for the day, traffic snarls were reported from across the city with motorists complaining of potholes on roads and waterlogging.

With Cyclone Montha likely to complete the landfall process by Tuesday night, rain will gradually subside in Tamil Nadu from Wednesday morning. Independent weather bloggers said there will be a break in the rains for Chennai for the next week, even as the northeast monsoon is intensifying in the state.

B Amudha, Head (additional in-charge), RMC, Chennai, said though the weather system moved away from the Tamil Nadu coast, parts of north Tamil Nadu received rainfall because of the outermost cloud bands of the severe cyclonic storm.

In 12 hours ending at 5.30 pm on Tuesday, Nungambakkam and Meenambakkam in Chennai recorded 8.8 mm each followed by Tiruttani (8 mm), Kanyakumari (4.0 mm), and Coimbatore (2.0 mm). Mamallapuram recorded 20 mm rainfall and Ennore port (13.5 mm).

Ajith Kumar, an independent weather blogger, said, "Montha has behaved well so far, giving us considerable good rains before saying goodbye."

SC declines to quash case over Babri Masjid rebuilding post

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court has refused to quash a criminal case against a law graduate for making a social media post stating that the Babri Masjid would be rebuilt one day.

A bench said the court had examined the post and did not wish to interfere with the criminal proceedings against petitioner Mohd Faiyyaz Mansuri.

Advocate Talha Abdul Rehman, appearing for the petitioner, argued that there was no vulgarity in the post and that Mansuri had merely said the Babri Masjid would be rebuilt like the Sophia Mosque in Turkey.

The counsel contended that the petitioner's post contained neither vulgar nor inflammatory content and that the allegedly objectionable remarks were made by another individual who had not been investigated.

The bench, however, remarked, "We have gone through the post. Don't invite any comment from us."

Following this, the counsel chose to withdraw the plea.

Society won't forgive us if we don't take care of doctors: SC

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said that society will not forgive the judiciary if it does not take care of doctors and stand for them.

The court also came down heavily upon those who felt that private doctors were working for profit during the Covid-19 pandemic.

A bench reserved the verdict on a plea against the non-inclusion of doctors and health workers who lost their lives battling Covid-19 at private clinics, dispensaries, and non-recognised hospitals in insurance policies.

The bench said, "Society will not forgive us if we don't take care of our doctors and don't stand for them." The court emphasised that the government must ensure that insurance companies settle the valid claims.

The bench asked the Centre to bring on record relevant data and information regarding other similar or parallel schemes available apart from the Pradhan Mantri Insurance Scheme.

A plea was filed by Pradeep Arora and others against a March 9, 2021, order of the Bombay HC. The high court had held that private hospital staff were not entitled to receive benefits under the insurance scheme unless their services were requisitioned by the state or the Centre.

The HC had passed the order on a plea filed by Kiran Bhaskar Surgade, who lost her husband, running a private clinic in Thane, to Covid-19 in 2020. The insurance company rejected her claim under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package on the grounds that her husband's clinic was not recognised as a Covid-19 hospital.

PRICED PRIDE

Rs 15-cr horse, Rs 23-cr buffalo steal spotlight at Pushkar Fair

PUSHKAR (RAJASTHAN), PTI

A horse worth Rs 15 crore, a Rs 23-crore buffalo and a cow just 16 inches tall are the star attractions of the Pushkar Cattle Fair in Rajasthan, one of India's most prominent livestock fairs known for showcasing elite breeds and record-breaking valuation of animals.

Although the fair will start from October 30 and continue till November 5, livestock traders and enthusiasts have already started to gather at the site.

Of the more than 4,300 animals, including 3,028 horses and 1,306 camels, that have been registered for the fair, the centrepiece is a two-and-a-half-year-old stallion, Shahbaz, owned by Chandigarh-based breeder Gary Gill, which has drawn a massive crowd. "Shahbaz has won multiple shows and comes from a prestigious lineage. His covering fee is Rs 2 lakh, and the asking price is Rs 15 crore," Gill said, adding that he has already received offers up to Rs 9 crore for the Marwari breed horse.

Another showstopper is 1,500-kg Anmol, a buffalo priced at Rs 23 crore. Its owner, Palmindra Gill, said the animal is "raised like royalty" and is fed milk, desi ghee, and dry fruits daily.

Camel herders at the annual Pushkar Cattle Fair in Ajmer. PTI

Joining the line-up is Rana, a buffalo from Ujjain valued at Rs 25 lakh and weighing 600 kg. The animal consumes food worth Rs 1,500 a day, including gram flour, eggs, oil, milk, ghee, and liver tonic.

Adding a unique charm to the fair, Abhinav Tiwari from Jaipur's Bagru has brought over 15 cows of different breeds, including one that stands just 16 inches tall, believed to be among the smallest in the fair.

'Based on my HC petition': BJP leader seeks ban on 'Taj Story'

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

A BJP leader from Uttar Pradesh has sought a ban on Paresh Rawal's film "The Taj Story", claiming that it is based on the writ petition he had filed in the Lucknow bench of the Allahabad High Court.

Rajnish Singh, a BJP leader from Ayodhya, has also lodged a complaint with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting as well as the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) in this regard.

Singh had filed a petition in the High Court in 2022, seeking directions to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), which manages the Taj Mahal, to open the 22 doors inside the monument that, he contended, remain closed. In his petition, he also claimed that the Taj Mahal was originally a temple.

The petitioner further sought the formation of an ASI committee to ascertain the truth behind his claims. However, the court dismissed his petition.

"I had filed a PIL to get the 22 closed doors of the Taj Mahal opened. My intention was to ensure transparency and verify the historical facts," Singh said in his complaint.

He alleged that the film's posters, advertisements, and judicial references related to his petition were used without his consent, which he said amounted to a violation of his intellectual and legal rights. "The commercial use of a judicial matter is also improper," he added.

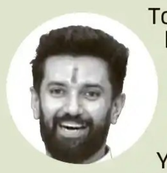
Singh warned that such films could inflame social and religious sentiments and influence the judicial process. He has sought an inquiry into the film's story and demanded that the film be banned.

COUNTER

"Modi's heart lies in Ahmedabad. The heart of Nitish lies in Rajgir (in his home district of Nalanda), Lalu's heart lies in his son. There is nobody whose heart beats for the common people

Asaduddin Owaisi
AIMIM president

V/S



To call oneself a hero of the people betrays utter lack of humility. No wonder, it has triggered resentment in his own party. Tejashwi Yadav is yet to make a mark for himself. The legacy that he carries (of father and RJD president Lalu Prasad) is all about jungle raj"

Chirag Paswan
LJP (Ram Vilas) chief

WOMEN AT THE POLLS: A DECADE IN NUMBERS

	2010	2015	2020
Contestants	307	273	370
Won	34	26	26
Forfeited Deposit	242	221	302

Poll diary

Law and order completely collapsed in Bihar: Tejashwi

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav on Tuesday alleged that the law and order situation has completely collapsed in Bihar, and the NDA government in the state was "least bothered" about the situation. Addressing a poll rally in Saran, Yadav asserted that the I.N.D.I.A bloc needs to be voted to power for the redressal of people's grievances. "Saran is witnessing murder, dacoity, abduction and loot every day. But, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar is least bothered about it... he never comes to console the victims. This is sheer insensitivity on the part of the government," he claimed.

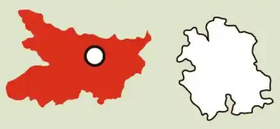
Delhi CM Rekha Gupta to campaign in Bihar for 2 days

Delhi CM Rekha Gupta will be in Bihar from Wednesday to campaign for the Assembly elections, officials said on Tuesday. Gupta will campaign on Thursday and Friday in five Assembly constituencies, Bochahan (Muzaffarpur), Danapur (Patna Rural), Patna Sahib (Patna), Madhuban, and Dinara (Rohtas), they said. Gupta is considered to having an impact on women voters of the state, BJP leaders in Delhi said.

Modi-Nitish govt strangled aspirations of youth: Rahul

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday alleged that the "Modi-Nitish" government has strangled the aspirations of the youth in Bihar, left the state abandoned and pushed it into an abyss on every development parameter. Gandhi asserted that now is the time for change and to reaffirm the Mahagathbandhan's resolve for justice. He made the remarks in a post on X, accompanied by a video of his interaction with Bihar's youth recently. "A few days ago, I had a very interesting conversation with the youth of Bihar on—education, health, employment—every issue. And, there is only one culprit responsible for the deplorable state—the BJP-JDU government."

CONSTITUENCY WATCH



ALINAGAR
(DARBHANGA DISTRICT)

MAITHILI THAKUR
BJP
2020: Did not contest

BINOD MISHRA
RJD
2020: Runner-up

Owaisi's Seemanchal swing & a 3-way fight

Old loyalties and new footprints collide in Bihar's borderlands, where the AIMIM's foray has reshaped the electoral math

MINORITY VOTE EQUATION

- 24 seats across Kishanganj, Araria, Purnia and Katihar go to polls in phase two
- Muslim population high in the region, traditionally favouring RJD-Cong
- AIMIM entered the fray in 2015, won five seats in 2020
- Hyderabad-based party's rise dented I.N.D.I.A prospects in many seats
- Congress alleges AIMIM divides minority votes to BJP's benefit

FROM THE GROUND

SUMIT PANDE
KISHANGANJ, DHNS

On either side of National Highway-27, from Bagdogra in North Bengal to Kishanganj in Bihar, all you can see is tea leaves. Quite literally. If you were to stop for a bite of sweet-sour pineapples sold at every second milestone, you would also get a taste of what's brewing this election season in Seemanchal, the farthest corner of poll-bound Bihar, that touches Nepal in the north and the Chicken's Neck in the east.

The 24 seats in the four districts of the region — Kishanganj, Araria, Purnia and Katihar — will go to the polls in the second phase. These districts have a high percentage of Muslim population, as high as 60% in Kishanganj and 40% in Katihar.

The demography suits the I.N.D.I.A bloc — the RJD and Congress. It did, for decades. Till AIMIM leader Asaduddin Owaisi decided to expand his base beyond the Deccan and fielded his candidates in 2015. He failed to impress voters then.

To demonstrate that he wasn't here just for kite-flying (the kite being AIMIM's symbol), the Hyderabad MP persisted. His efforts paid off, as his candidate won a bye-election from Kishanganj just ahead of the last Assembly elections.

In 2020, the AIMIM changed Seemanchal politics, winning five seats: two each in Kishanganj and Purnia, and one in Araria. In the process, it damaged the RJD-Congress prospects in another dozen seats across Bihar.

For an election where the difference between the NDA and the RJD-led Opposition was a mere 12,000 votes, marginal seats mattered and tilted the scales away from the Opposition.

In Kishanganj, the Congress managed to win by less than 1,400 votes over the BJP candidate, as AIMIM's Qamrul Hoda received 24% of the votes. In two seats in the adjoining Purnia district, AIMIM candidates pushed RJD-Congress nominees to the third spot.

"We lost five, but the damage was not confined to Seemanchal," says Rajasthan Congress MLA Rafeek Khan, now camping in Kishanganj to manage the party's election.

"But Owaisi is exposed now. People are asking where he got all the money to fund his campaign last time around, and four of five MLAs later left him to join the RJD," he adds.

Owaisi's party has been conscious of the allegations by the 'secular' bloc that AIMIM's entry into the fray divides Opposition votes to the BJP's advantage. Ahead of the nomination process, Owaisi held a series of roadshows in the region, offering to contest the elections as part of the I.N.D.I.A bloc.

"It is now common knowledge that I wrote to (RJD president) Lalu Prasad and Tejashwi Yadav, expressing willingness for a tie-up. But no response came. Now, we must do all that we can to expand our footprints," he said, announcing his list of 25 candidates for this election. To make a point, far away in Telangana, his home turf, Owaisi has extended support to a Congress candidate contesting the Jubilee Hill bypoll, elections for which would be held in Bihar.

But why has a Hyderabad-based party found support in pockets of remote Bihar?

"Well, we see Owaisi raise issues concerning Muslims in Parliament, we see him do that regularly," says Miraj, a voter from Thakurganj, where he says the RJD is strong. "But in the adjoining Bahadurganj, the AIMIM's prospects look promising," adds Miraj, who runs a mom-and-pop shop.

His friend Salman thinks the contest in most Kishanganj seats is triangular between the BJP, AIMIM and the I.N.D.I.A bloc. "But Inshaallah, people will vote for development," he says.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the BJP campaign for the Bihar polls last month by inaugurating a slew of development schemes, including a new airport terminal at Purnia. After Deepavali, flight operations have also started for Delhi and Hyderabad.

In his speech, coinciding with Rahul Gandhi's vote-bachao yatra, Modi accused the Congress of "protecting foreign infiltrators".

Electorally, a direct contest does not suit the BJP in Seemanchal. If the minority votes are split, the NDA stands a chance to win, especially in seats where one-way voting by Muslims can conclusively seal the electoral outcome.

Rahul Gandhi to hit campaign trail today

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will address around a dozen election rallies in Bihar from Wednesday, some jointly with I.N.D.I.A bloc's chief ministerial candidate, Tejashwi Yadav, while Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is likely to launch her campaign this weekend from seats where Congress is locked in a 'friendly fight' with allies CPI and IIP.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge is likely to address three rallies between October 31 and November 5, one of which would be in Kutumba, a reserved seat, from where Bihar party chief Rajesh Ram is facing the election for another term. Kharge will also address rallies in Kuchaikot and Amarpur.

Priyanka, sources said, is likely to address eight rallies and her first rally will be in Bachhwara on November 1, where Congress has fielded Bihar Youth Congress Shiv Prakash Garib Das against BJP's sitting MLA Surendra Mehta and CPI's Abdesh Kumar Rai. Her other proposed rallies are in Lakhi Sarai and Rosera on November 3, Govindganj and Chanpatia on November 6.

Rahul will start his campaign with Tejashwi from Sakra Assembly seat in Muzaffarpur followed by another rally in Darbhanga on Wednesday and is set to address nine more rallies till November 7.

This will be the first time that Rahul and Tejashwi Yadav will share the stage after September 24 in Patna when the alliance's manifesto for Extremely Backward Classes was released.

Kishor gets EC notice over name in Bihar, Bengal rolls

ABHAY KUMAR
PATNA

The Election Commission on Tuesday issued a notice to Jan Suraaj founder Prashant Kishor, asking him to explain how he is a voter in both Bihar and West Bengal.

The EC notice, accessed by the *DH*, has been issued by the Returning Officer (RO) of Bihar's Kargahar Assembly constituency, where Prashant, popularly known as PK, is registered as a voter.

PK, however, said the EC was responsible for the duplication of his name as a voter in Bihar as well as West Bengal, as he had earlier requested the EC to delete his name from Kolkata, where he worked as a poll strategist for Mamata Banerjee's Trinamool Congress during the 2021 polls.

"It has been found that you are registered as a voter at 121, Kalighat Road in Kolkata in Bhawanipur constituency, with a polling station at St Helen School. You are also registered as a voter in Kargahar (Rohtas district of Bihar) under polling booth number 621, with EPIC (voter identity card) number IUI3123718," said the EC notice to PK.

Prashant Kishor

The poll body has asked for PK's explanation within 3 days. The EC notice further says that under Section 17 of the Representation of the People's Act 1950, a person cannot be enrolled as a voter in more than 1 constituency. "Violation of this provision may attract penalties under Section 31 of the Act, including imprisonment up to 1 year, a fine, or both."

Meanwhile, JD(U) spokesperson Neeraj Kumar said, "It is surprising that PK got enrolled as a voter in West Bengal. We suspect he must have struck a deal with Mamata Banerjee that after her victory, he should be made a Rajya Sabha member, as one should be a resident of the State to become a member of the Upper House."

The EC insisted that Special Intensive Revision, carried out in Bihar, and will be done across country, was primarily aimed at weeding out bogus voters.

SECURING WITH A SMILE

Chhattisgarh Armed Force personnel arrive at the railway station for deployment ahead of the Bihar Assembly Election, in Patna, on Tuesday. PTI

Prioritise education, create employment: Youth

PATNA, PTI

NEW BEGINNING

- Students express frustration over irregular govt job postings, often marred by paper leaks and delayed exam dates
- Some say that NDA has failed on the fronts of education, employment and out-migration control

College students in poll-bound Bihar, many of whom are first-time voters, rue the lack of job opportunities that has been forcing several of their seniors to leave the state in search of work, and want a government that can strengthen the education system and generate employment.

They also expressed frustration over irregular government job postings, often marred by paper leaks and delayed exam schedules.

As the state goes to assembly polls in two phases on November 6 and 11, around 14 lakh youth are expected to vote for the first time, according to the data released by the Election Commission. Voters in the age group 18-29, totalling 1.63 crore, reportedly constitute an estimated 22-25 per cent of the state's electorate.

BIHAR VOTES

"Our hopes from the present government have faded completely," said Abhinav Kumar Shukla, a postgraduate student in the Hindi Department of Patna University, while he was busy solving practice sets for his STET exams in a corridor that connects the English Department with its French-style administrative block.

Shukla, who hails from Bhabhua town in Kaimur district, believes that there is a need for "widespread employment generation within the state".

Santosh Kumar, a visually-challenged student of Patna College who hails from Jamui district, said, "Patna University's present must match its past. Its alumni are par excellence but its present state is below par."

A constituent of Patna University, Patna College, once called 'Oxford of the East', now appears to be sparsely occupied, with untrimmed grasses on the ground and near-empty corridors.

Patna University had been a hotbed of political activism, producing renowned intellectuals, thinkers and litterateurs, among others.

It has produced leaders like Lalu Prasad Yadav, Nitish Kumar and J P Nadda. The political sharpness still runs in the veins of the students in the university.

On the question of central university status for Patna University, Santosh said, "The condition of central universities is no better, but we will definitely root for that status for our university."

Gaurav Kumar, a postgraduate student in Psychology Department, who will vote for the second time, believes that "health and education sectors are in dismal state" and "corruption is rampant".

CRACK OF 'DON'

Shahabuddin's son set to make poll debut

ABHAY KUMAR
PATNA

Post-independence, Bihar's Siwan has been popular for two primary reasons—one, as the birthplace of the first president, Dr Rajendra Prasad, and second, as the stronghold of gangster-turned-politician Md Shahabuddin.

Shahabuddin, who won as MLA twice in 1990 and 1995 and as Lok Sabha MP four times: 1996, 1998, 1999 and 2004, was Robinhood for the poor, extortionists for traders, a pillar of support for RJD chief Lalu Prasad and a pain in the neck for the Bihar Police.

While Shahabuddin died in jail due to Covid-19 infection in 2021, his name has made a return in the bylanes of Siwan, where his son, Osama Shahab, is making his electoral debut on an RJD ticket from Raghunathpur in Siwan.

In a rally, Union Home Minister Amit Shah took a jibe at the Opposition chief ministerial candidate Tejashwi Yadav, asking him if he wants to rule Bihar with the help of late Bahubali's son. "Shahabuddin's son Osama is enough to remind the people of Bihar about the Jungle Raj of the Lalu-Rabri era," he said, harping on his constant law and order pitch.

Soon, videos showing how the two traders, who reportedly refused to pay extortion to Shahabuddin, were bathed with acid and killed, have gone viral. Or, for that matter, how the late RJD MP threatened the then Siwan SP to chase him up to his home state, Rajasthan.

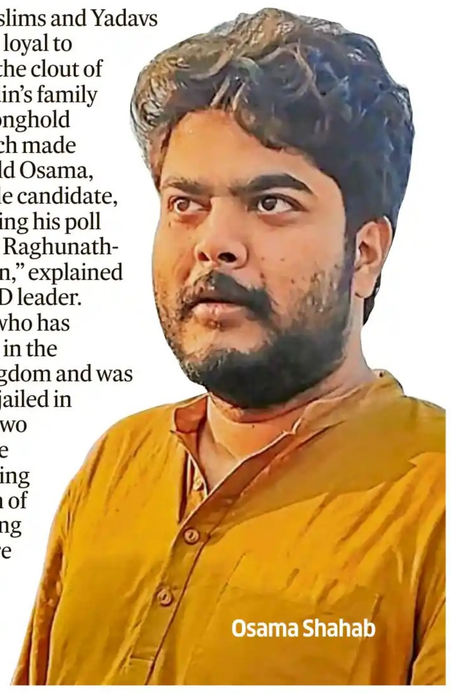
Tejashwi, who has promised to build a new Bihar and wants to start on a clean slate, is, however, garnering bad optics by fielding controversial figures like Osama from Raghunathpur.

"Will you establish the rule of law through tainted persons like Osama or Ritlal Yadav (RJD nominee from Danapur)," wonders Jan Suraaj founder Prashant Kishor.

RJD sources say the decision to field Osama was more a reconciliation with Shahabuddin's family than any political compulsion.

"The RJD fielded Shahabuddin's wife, Heena Shahab, in the 2009, 2014 and 2019 Lok Sabha elections. She lost on all three occasions (as Shahabuddin was in jail). The RJD did not field her in 2024. She contested as an Independent and ended up as runner-up after securing 2,93,000 votes. It was the electoral maths (where Muslims and Yadavs still remain loyal to RJD), plus the clout of Shahabuddin's family in their stronghold Siwan, which made the RJD field Osama, a formidable candidate, who is making his poll debut from Raghunathpur in Siwan," explained a senior RJD leader.

Osama, who has studied law in the United Kingdom and was reportedly jailed in 2024 over two land dispute cases, is facing Vikas Singh of JD(U). Voting is slated here during the first phase of the poll on November 6.



Osama Shahab

75% of Bihar's phase-1 seats are 'red alert' constituencies

NEW DELHI, DHNS

Bihar's 91 of the 121 constituencies going to the Assembly elections in the first phase on November 6 are classified as 'red alert' constituencies — seats with three or more candidates facing criminal cases—according to an analysis by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) released on Tuesday.

Altogether 1,314 candidates, including 121 women, are in the fray for 121 seats spread across 18 districts. The analysis of 1,303 candidates showed that 354 have declared serious criminal cases against them, while 519 are crorepatis.

The ADR report revealed that 75% — or three out of every four seats — in the first phase are 'red alert' constituencies. Kurhani topped the list with eight of its 20 candidates declaring criminal cases against them.

High-profile constituencies such as Raghopur — where RJD scion Tejashwi Yadav is contesting — and Tarapur — where BJP Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary is in the fray — are also on the list, with four candidates each facing criminal charges.

According to report, 354 candidates have declared serious criminal cases, including 86 accused of murder and 42 charged with crimes against women. The Prashant Kishor-led Jan Suraaj Party has the highest number of candidates with serious criminal cases, followed by the RJD with 42, BJP 27, JD(U) 15, Congress 12 and CPI(ML)(L) 9.

Regarding wealth, 519 candidates have declared assets worth over Rs 1 crore, while 103 candidates possess assets exceeding Rs 10 crore. Ninety-three candidates have assets between Rs 5 crore and Rs 10 crore, and 323 fall within the Rs 1 crore-Rs 5 crore range. A total of 417 candidates have assets between Rs 20 lakh and Rs 1 crore, while 367 have declared assets of less than Rs 20 lakh.

In this category too, the Jan Suraaj Party leads with 81 crorepati candidates, followed by RJD with 68, JD(U) 57, BJP 44, Congress 18 and CPI(ML)(L) with two. The richest among all is BJP's Munger candidate, Kumar Pranay, who has declared assets worth Rs 170.81 crore.

Two Maoist leaders surrender after four decades underground

Moral win for holistic policy adopted by T'gana Police against CPI (Maoist): DGP

S N V SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

Two senior leaders of CPI (Maoist) party, Pulluri Prasad Rao and Bandi Prakash, surrendered in Hyderabad on Tuesday. PTI

In another major setback to the Maoist movement, two senior leaders of the banned CPI (Maoist) surrendered before Telangana DGP B Shivadhar Reddy on Tuesday.

Among them is central committee member Pulluri Prasad Rao, known by the aliases Shankaranna and Chandranna, who had been underground for 45 years.

Alongside him, another senior Maoist leader, Bandi Prakash, who remained underground for over four decades, also surrendered.

Prasad carried a bounty of Rs 25 lakh, while Prakash had a reward of Rs 20 lakh on his head.

Prakash served as organiser of the National Park Area in Chhattisgarh, a strategically important position within the Maoist network.

Following the launch of Operation Kagar, the strength of the central committee has sharply declined from over 20 senior leaders to fewer than 10. Prasad's surrender follows that of Mallojula Venugopal Rao, another top Maoist leader, who along with 60 armed cadre laid down arms in Maharashtra a few days ago.

Prasad Rao, 64, had been guiding the Telangana State Committee (TSC) of the CPI (Maoist). He was married to Kursangi Mothibai, also known as Radhakka, a member of the divisional committee. Radhakka was arrested in 2013 and released from prison in 2015.

Citing deteriorating health, chronic knee ailments, sustained pressure from security forces, ideological differences, and internal rifts within the CPI (Maoist), Prasad Rao chose to renounce the movement and join the mainstream under government facilitation.

"The return of two of the most senior Maoist leaders to mainstream society after over four decades underground marks a moral victory for the holistic and comprehensive policy adopted by the Telangana Police against the CPI (Maoist)," said DGP Shivadhar Reddy.

A walk in the forest turns fatal: Jharkhand girl dies in IED blast

CHAIBASA/SUKMA, PTI: A 10-year-old tribal girl died when an improvised explosive device (IED) planted allegedly by Maoists exploded in Jharkhand's West Singhbhum district on Tuesday, police said.

The Sub-Divisional Police Officer said the girl had gone to pluck Sial leaves in the Tilaposi forest when her leg accidentally fell on the IED planted underground.

"The Maoists had planted the IED to target security forces, but unfortunately, the innocent girl unknowingly had stood on the IED, leading to the blast and her death on the spot on Tuesday morning...," he said.

The officer said they would be writing to the state government for compensation as per the provision for victims of Maoist violence.

The girl has been identified as Siria Herenz, daughter of Jai Masih Herenz. She had gone to pluck Sial leaves along with her friends as the school was closed on Tuesday for Chhath festivity.

40-kg IED seized

Security forces on Tuesday recovered a powerful 40-kg IED in Sukma. A joint team unearthed the explosive along the Fulbagdi-Badeshetti road.

"The explosive was planted to target security forces. It was safely neutralised by the security forces," a police official said

Experts flag concerns over Great Nicobar infra project

KALYAN RAY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Raising more questions about the Great Nicobar Infrastructure Project, over 70 scientists, conservationists, and sociologists have written to Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, flagging concerns over the "grave and irreversible" negative impacts of the controversial project being pushed by the central government.

They accused the Narendra Modi government of being "disingenuous" for invoking national security whenever questions were raised on a developmental project, and criticised the Central government for allowing a handful of institutions to carry out "biodiversity monitoring", though the same institutions drafted "illogical, unscientific, and baseless" mitigation strategies.

Faced with criticism over the project, the Central government in recent months has defended it, citing its importance from a military perspective.

The academics, however, pointed out that the military part of the project — a dual-use military-cum-civilian airport — would cover only 5% of the project area.

The remaining 160 sq km was exclusively for a commercial trans-shipment port, an associated power plant and a sprawling township to accommodate 3.5 lakh people who would be settling on the island, whose current population is just about 8,000.

"It is disingenuous to label what is essentially a commercial project as a strategic one and invoke national security whenever questions are raised. This greenfield township, a commercial project, covers more than 80% of the total project area, excluding the defence township of 12.6 sq m," said the academicians in a letter to the minister.

The letter comes weeks after Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi slammed the controversial project, describing it as an "ecological disaster" in the making — a charge Yadav denied.

Karur stampede victim's wife returns Rs 20 lakh to Vijay over broken promise

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

The wife of a victim of the Karuru stampede has returned Rs 20 lakh solatium electronically transferred to her by TVK chief Vijay, objecting to his meeting the families of the deceased by calling them to Mamallapuram. The woman said she was upset that Vijay could not keep his word of meeting the families in Karur.

M Sangavi, whose husband Ramesh was among the 41 victims, also accused the TVK office-bearers of "cheating" her family by taking their estranged kin to meet Vijay after they refused to be part of the entourage. Of the 38 families, a few refused to come to Mamallapuram and meet Vijay by insisting that the actor should come to their homes and extend his condolences.

"He (spoke) to us via video call two weeks back and informed us that he will come here to meet us and extend his condolences. However, when we were asked to come to Chennai, we refused. But the TVK people have taken my estranged sister-in-law and her husband to represent me and my mother-in-law," Sangavi said. Ramesh's mother also said they refused to be part of the entourage and blamed TVK for not consulting them before taking their relatives to meet Vijay.

"Since this move has caused huge stress, we decided to return the Rs 20 lakh transferred to my account by Vijay. I have sent the money back through a bank on Monday," Sangavi said and displayed an acknowledgement slip of the electronic money transfer.

Meanwhile, Vijay resumed his political activities on Tuesday after a month by faulting the DMK government for not taking precautionary measures to prevent crop loss during the north east monsoon.

MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie

UNFORTUNATELY, THERE'S ONLY SO MUCH I CAN DO WITH YOUR HAIR, SO DON'T EXPECT A MIRACLE
I'M NOT LOOKING FOR A MIRACLE, JUST A HAIRCUT
GOOD...I JUST WANT YOU TO KEEP YOUR EXPECTATIONS AS LOW AS I DO
7-21

Hagar The Horrible

HAGAR, YOU WEREN'T WEARING THAT JACKET WHEN YOU LEFT THE HOUSE!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
I GOT IT FROM THE VILLAGE LOST-AND-FOUND BOOTH!
BUT YOU DIDN'T LOSE IT!
I KNOW! I ONLY JUST FOUND IT!

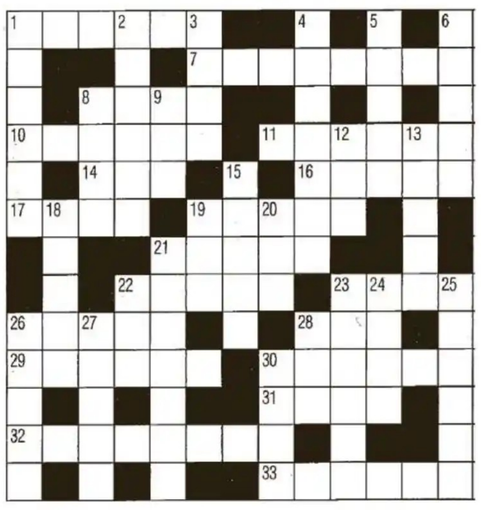
Beetle Bailey

Peanuts

Marvin

HELLO, MR. GRUMBLE! I'M ROY, THE NEW APARTMENT MANAGER
YOUR NEIGHBOR REPORTED THAT YOUR DOOR MAKES A LOT OF NOISE WHEN IT'S CLOSED
SLAM!
YEAH... LIKE THAT

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12276



CRYPTIC

ACROSS
1 A double blow for the French? (6)
7 Possibly relaying by runner (8)
8 In confusion, I met father (4)
10 Phony American private eye? (6)
11 Rod accepts it as formally courteous (6)
14 A supporter of privilege (3)
16 Made a heap, like the piper round the corner (5)
17 Decided to keep the police out of the paper (4)
19 If wrong, Edward gets punished (5)
21 Nerve broken? Certainly not! (5)
22 Intimidated by a cowboy? (5)
23 Mental state at the crack of doom? (4)
26 He flies with an awfully good bunch of chaps (5)
28 Can you play it with your eyes closed? (3)
29 Not accustomed to us appearing in the nude, perhaps (6)
30 Hamper the perfidious Goth, that is (6)
31 Admits there are various ways to love (4)
32 Prepare to fire a further flier (8)
33 Small man going to the city at an opportune moment (6)

DOWN
1 Stopped being cold and relaxed (6)
2 When ready, Mike snooped around (6)
3 They can look to give noted encouragement (4)
4 He'll swear the porter's upset about nothing! (7)
5 Nice bit of cider for a villager having no beer (5)
6 Looked to have taken the lead by an own goal (5)
8 Late change in a story (4)
9 A fool, but at least he can hold his drink (3)
12 Sliding cover? (3)
13 How quickly to play the tango, compose a poem (5)
15 Plunges into low haunts? (5)
18 Being impish can bring a bit of fun to life, maybe (5)
19 Not many can be heard to express relief! (3)
20 He goes northeast a lot (3)
21 On which there can be no cryptically taped message (7)
22 See an outsize lettuce (3)
23 Mother's about to nag drunkenly - it's all that champagne! (6)
24 Chooses the wrong spot (4)
25 It's dismally dull, back in the outskirts of Derby (6)
26 Make a hole in a sock? (5)
27 Middling meal? (5)
28 No point at present (3)
30 Getting angry about nothing is a funny thing (4)

ACROSS
1 Call off (6)
7 Obscure (8)
8 Containers (4)
10 Colour (6)
11 Pictures (6)
14 Small (3)
16 Valuable thing (5)
17 Condiment (4)
19 Tree (5)
21 Girl's name (5)
22 Adam's ale (5)
23 Lost blood (4)
26 Meat in rashers (5)
28 Enemy (3)
29 Assert (6)
30 Hunt (6)
31 Dry (4)
32 Infirmary (8)
33 Inheritance (6)

DOWN
1 Coarse cloth (6)
2 Swiss wooden house (6)
3 Ultimate (4)
4 Internal organ (7)
5 Stoppers (5)
6 Leaven (5)
8 Hood (4)
9 Born as (3)
12 Cigarette deposit (3)
13 Weird (5)
15 Brimless cap (5)
18 Dismay (5)
19 Club (3)
20 Wheat spike (3)
21 Spanish drink (7)
22 Grief (3)
23 Dull (6)
24 Guide (4)
25 Vague (6)
26 Wash (5)
27 Shut (5)
28 In favour of (3)
30 Drop (4)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12275

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 1, R-oast 6, Ski-p-s 9, Pontoon 10, Strip 11, Lions 12, Da-vit 13, Fired up 15, Peg 17, O-der 18, Figaro 19, Be-fit 20, Traces 22, R-us-e 24, Hey 25, Stee-pe-d 26, Blots 27, Radio 28, Films 29, T-wirled 30, Skies 31, Deans
DOWN: 2, Outb-I-d 3, Spider 4, Top 5, Strap 6, So-licit 7, K-N-it 8, P-inn-er 12, Dukes 13, Forth (Bridge) 14, Relay 15, Pal up 16, Gored 18, Fi-s-ts 19, Bellow's 21, Re-Mark 22, Res-I-de 23, Sermon 25, Stern 26, Bit-e 28, F-Ed.

EASY
ACROSS: 1, Usurp 6, Pawns 9, Aerosol 10, Grain 11, Loose 12, Rupee 13, Dubious 15, Alb 17, Eden 18, Father 19, Valet 20, Drivel 22, Tape 24, Sin 25, Baghdad 26, Peril 27, Spear 28, Canoe 29, Rancour 30, Yearn 31, Ether,
DOWN: 2, Shroud 3, Raisin 4, Pen 5, Bogus 6, Polecat 7, Aloe 8, Nestle 12, Rural 13, Deeds 14, Begin 15, Ahead 16, Breed 18, Feral 19, Veteran 21, Ripple 22, Thwart 23, Parole 25, Bitch 26, Parr 28, Cue.

◆SU-DO-KU-6737◆

	5		8			4		7
		6			2		9	
4			9					
		4	2					
	6	9				2	1	
					8	5		
					4			5
	2		1			7		
7		3			6		2	

very hard

1	6	4	3	2	9	5	8	7
3	2	9	7	8	5	6	4	1
5	8	7	6	1	4	3	9	2
4	9	3	8	5	7	1	2	6
7	5	2	4	6	1	8	3	9
6	1	8	9	3	2	4	7	5
2	4	6	5	9	3	7	1	8
9	7	5	1	4	8	2	6	3
8	3	1	2	7	6	9	5	4

SOLUTION TO 6736

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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							RACK 1
T1	K5	F4	S1	S1	R1	O1	
							RACK 2
O1	E1	H4	L1	S1	L1	V4	3rd Letter Double
							RACK 3
U1	G2	P3	N1	R1	E1	L1	
							RACK 4
S1	U1	T1	S1	A1	L1	A1	Triple Word Score

PAR SCORE 100-110
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

C3	A1	G2	I1	E1	S1	T1	RACK 1 = 60
I1	N1	V4	I1	T1	E1	D2	RACK 2 = 72
F4	U1	N1	D2	I1	N1	G2	RACK 3 = 86
F4	L1	O1	O1	D2	S1		RACK 4 = 10
O1	P3	T1	I1	O1	N1	S1	RACK 5 = 59

PAR SCORE 185-195 JUDD'S TOTAL 287

HITORI-3191

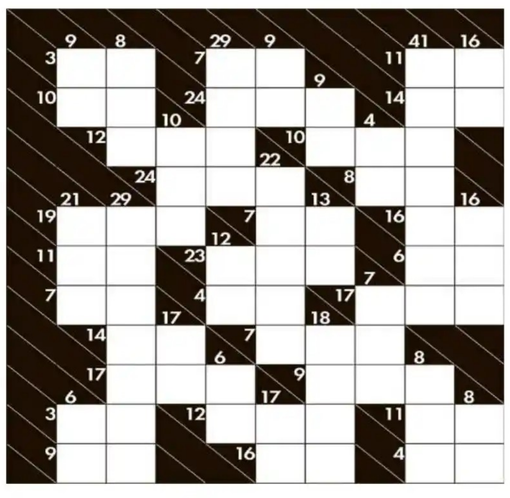
7	1	8	2	3	4	3	5
3	4	2	5	2	2	3	6
8	5	7	4	6	3	1	2
7	3	4	2	5	6	3	8
3	2	6	1	2	5	4	3
2	7	3	6	4	7	8	3
1	6	5	8	3	3	7	3
3	6	2	3	8	3	5	1

SOLUTION TO 3190

■	5	3	6	4	■	1	8
8	6	4	■	1	3	2	■
3	■	2	7	6	■	5	1
■	7	1	■	5	2	■	3
7	8	5	1	2	■	6	4
■	4	■	5	8	1	■	2
5	1	8	■	7	■	3	■
1	■	6	8	3	7	4	5

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3191



SOLUTION TO 3190

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3719

■	4			3	2			8
	■		7				■	
		7		8	6	■		4
			■		3			1
6				5				
2			1	6	■			
		■		7		■		
	6						9	
■			6		8			■

SOLUTION TO 3718

6	5	1	9	7	3	2	4	8
9	7	2	6	8	4	5	3	1
4	8	3	5	1	2	9	6	7
7	1	8	2	3	6	4	5	9
5	3	6	8	4	9	7	1	2
2	9	4	7	5	1	3	8	6
3	6	5	1	9	7	8	2	4
8	2	7	4	6	5	1	9	3
1	4	9	3	2	8	6	7	5

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RFYTO

CCIYN

FEIDDE

STRHHA

Did I say, "At ease"? Is your back broken? It better be for you to not be at attention right now.
Yes, Sergeant! Sorry, Sergeant.
4/19
AFTER THE SERGEANT TOLD HIM TO STOP SLOUCHING, THE PRIVATE WAS GOING TO ---

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HOUSE FORCE ENCORE ATRIUM
Answer: The Voyager 1 space probe would no longer be in our solar system — FROM HERE ON OUT

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Indian national stabs two teens on Germany flight

NEW YORK, PTI: A 28-year-old Indian national allegedly stabbed two teenagers with a metal fork and slapped a co-passenger on board a flight from Chicago to Germany, according to US authorities.

The incident occurred on Saturday on a Lufthansa flight that had to be diverted to Boston Logan International Airport following the disturbance, the US Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts said on Monday.

According to charging documents, Praneeth Kumar Usiripalli allegedly stabbed a 17-year-old male passenger in the shoulder with a metal fork before stabbing another 17-year-old male passenger in the back of the head with the same fork. The second teen suffered a laceration to his head.

Usiripalli has been charged in the US District Court with one count of assault with a dangerous weapon with intent to do bodily harm while travelling on an aircraft within the special aircraft jurisdiction of the US. He was arrested on October 25 and will appear in federal court in Boston at a later date.

If convicted, he could face up to 10 years in prison, up to three years of supervised release, and a fine of up to USD 250,000. The alleged attack reportedly took place following the in-flight meal service. When attempts were made to restrain him, Usiripalli allegedly formed a gun with his fingers, placed it in his mouth, and mimicked pulling a trigger, the documents state.

He then slapped a female passenger and also attempted to strike a flight crew member. Usiripalli currently does not have lawful status in the US. He was previously in the country on a student visa and was enrolled in a master's programme in biblical studies, according to the press release.

Takaichi, Trump swap praise for 'new golden age' of ties

US, Japan ink critical minerals and rare earth deal

TOKYO, AFP

Japan's new premier, Sanae Takaichi, lavished United States President Donald Trump with praise and vows of a "golden age" of ties during his visit to Tokyo on Tuesday, before signing a deal with Washington aimed at securing critical minerals.

Takaichi, Japan's first woman prime minister, pulled out all the stops for Trump in her first major test on the international stage, even announcing she would nominate him for a Nobel Peace Prize.

In return for Takaichi's plaudits, Trump, meeting the conservative premier for the first time during his Asia tour that seeks a deal with China, described Washington's alliance with Tokyo as being of the "strongest level."

"It's a great honour to be with you, especially so early in what will be, I think, one of the greatest prime ministers," Trump told Takaichi.

Takaichi praised Trump's efforts towards achieving a ceasefire between Thailand and Cambodia and his "unprecedented historic achievement" in brokering the Gaza truce deal. She also presented him with a golf bag signed by star player Hideki Matsuyama and a putter that once belonged to assassinated former prime minister Shinzo Abe, who had shared a close personal bond with Trump, according to the White House. "I would like to realise a new golden age of the Japan-US alliance, where both Japan and the US become stronger and more prosperous," Takaichi said.

Japan's Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi with US President Donald Trump on board the US Navy's USS George Washington aircraft carrier in Yokosuka on Tuesday. AFP

Speaking later alongside Trump aboard the USS George Washington near Tokyo, Takaichi said she was "committed to fundamentally reinforcing" Japan's defence capabilities, noting that her nation faced "unprecedented" security threats.

Trump, who came on stage pumping his fist and waving to cheers, said he had approved the first batch of missiles for Japan's Self-Defence Forces' F-35 fighter jets, to be delivered this week. He also announced that the US would work with Japan on "making ships," as Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick signed a deal to boost cooperation in shipbuilding.

China currently dominates the shipbuilding industry, which has steadily declined in the US—but Trump has vowed to revive the sector. The two sides also signed an agreement aimed at "achieving resilience and security of critical minerals and rare earths supply chains," according to a joint statement.

Beijing earlier this month announced sweeping restrictions on the rare earths industry, prompting Trump to threaten 100% tariffs on Chinese imports in retaliation.

'7 aircraft shot down during India-Pak clash'

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Seven "brand-new, beautiful" aircraft were shot down during the May 7–10 cross-border military flare-up between India and Pakistan, US President Donald Trump said in Tokyo, reiterating his claim that he had brokered the ceasefire between the two nations.

Though he had earlier claimed that seven aircraft of the Indian and Pakistani armed forces were shot down during the conflict, this was the first time he described the planes as "brand-new" and "beautiful". He made the comment during a dinner with American and Japanese business leaders in Tokyo on Monday.

"If you look at India and Pakistan, they were going at it. Seven brand-new, beautiful planes were shot down," Trump said, apparently in a bid to emphasise the intensity of the conflict, which followed India's strikes on terror camps in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir on May 7. He, however, did not clarify which side had lost the aircraft.

Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A P Singh had said earlier that the IAF neutralised 11–12 Pakistani aircraft.

Netanyahu issues order for strikes on Gaza

Hamas to delay hostage body handover

TEL AVIV, AP/PTI

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Tuesday he has ordered the army to immediately carry out "powerful strikes" in Gaza, and Hamas responded by saying it would delay handing over the body of a hostage, putting new pressure on the fragile US-brokered ceasefire.

The order from Netanyahu follows heightened tensions, as Israel reported Hamas firing on its forces in southern Gaza and after Hamas returned a set of remains that Israel said belonged to a hostage recovered earlier in the war.

Netanyahu called the return a "clear violation" of the ceasefire agreement, which requires Hamas to return all Israeli hostage remains as soon as possible.

In another sign of the ceasefire's fragility, Israeli troops were shot at in the southern city of Rafah on Tuesday and returned fire, according to an Israeli military official who spoke on condition of anonymity because there has not yet been an official announcement. The ceasefire that began on October 10 has largely held despite at least two earlier flare-ups in violence.

Hamas militants carry a body retrieved from a tunnel in Khan Yunis on Tuesday. AFP

On October 19, Israel said two Israeli soldiers were killed by Hamas fire. Israel responded with a series of strikes that killed more than 40 Palestinians, according to local health officials. Over the weekend, Israel carried out an airstrike against what it said were Islamic Jihad militants planning an attack, wounding several people.

There are still 13 bodies of hostages in Gaza. Hamas said Tuesday it had recovered the body of a hostage, but after Israel announced plans to strike Gaza, Hamas said in a statement it would delay the handover.

An Associated Press videographer in Khan Younis witnessed what appeared to be a white body bag being carried out from a tunnel by several men, including some masked militants, and then placed into an ambulance.

The slow return of hostages' bodies is posing a challenge to implementing the next stages of the ceasefire, which will address even more complex issues such as the disarmament of Hamas, the deployment of an international security force in Gaza, and determining who will govern the territory.

Hamas has said it is struggling to locate the bodies amid the vast destruction in Gaza, while Israel has accused the militant group of deliberately delaying their return.

Over the weekend, Egypt deployed a team of experts and heavy equipment to help search for the bodies of the remaining hostages.

Musk launches Grokipedia to rival Wikipedia

NEW YORK, AFP

Elon Musk's company xAI launched Grokipedia on Monday to compete with the online encyclopaedia Wikipedia, which he has accused of ideological bias.

The site, dubbed version 0.1, had more than 885,000 articles by Monday evening, compared with Wikipedia's more than 7 million in English.

The launch came with the promise of a newer version, 1.0, which Musk said would be "10X better" than the current live site, which he claimed is already "better than Wikipedia." "The goal of Grok and Grokipedia.com is the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. We will never be perfect, but we shall nonetheless strive towards that goal," he said on X following the launch.

Grokipedia's release had been marked for the end of September but was delayed by the US entrepreneur to "purge out the propaganda," Musk said in a separate X post.

Musk has been a frequent critic of Wikipedia. In 2024, he accused the site of being "controlled by far-left activists" and called for donations to the platform to stop.

In August, he said, "Wikipedia cannot be used as a definitive source for Community Notes, as the editorial control there is extremely left-biased." The content on Grokipedia is generated by artificial intelligence (AI) and the generative AI assistant Grok.

ELON MUSK
xAI owner & Tesla chief

"The goal of Grok and Grokipedia is the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. We will never be perfect, but we shall nonetheless strive towards that goal.

Created in 2001, Wikipedia is a collaborative encyclopaedia managed by volunteers, largely funded by donations, and whose pages can be written or edited by internet users.

"Unlike newer projects, Wikipedia's strengths are clear: it has transparent policies, rigorous volunteer oversight, and a strong culture of continuous improvement," a spokeswoman from the Wikimedia Foundation said.

She said the site aims to inform "billions of readers without promoting a particular point of view."

When asked about the launch of Grokipedia, the spokeswoman said Wikimedia is "still in the process of understanding how Grokipedia works." She emphasised that Wikimedia "is — and always will be — human."

Sri Lanka cabinet gives nod for Indian grant

COLOMBO, PTI: The cabinet has approved to implement projects under an Indian grant for developmental projects in the eastern province of Sri Lanka, Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath said on Tuesday.

"The Public Administration ministry is currently preparing the relevant agreements to be signed with the Indian High Commission", Herath told reporters here.

According to an MoU signed between the two governments on April 5 this year, India was to provide Sri Lankan rupees 2,371 million to fund 33 projects in the eastern province. The projects are part of India's ongoing development assistance to Sri Lanka under the Indian multi-sectoral grants programme, Herath added.

Microsoft, OpenAI seal $500-billion deal

WASHINGTON, REUTERS/PTI

Microsoft and OpenAI on Tuesday said they had reached an agreement allowing the ChatGPT maker to restructure itself into a public benefit corporation, valuing OpenAI at $500 billion and paving the way for it to go public.

Microsoft would hold a stake of about $135 billion, or 27%, in OpenAI Group PBC, which will be controlled by the OpenAI Foundation, a nonprofit. The deal removes a major constraint on OpenAI's ability to raise capital. Founded as a nonprofit AI safety organisation, OpenAI signed a deal in 2019 with Microsoft granting the Redmond, Washington-based company rights over much of its work in exchange for the costly cloud computing services needed to support it.

Microsoft shares rose 4% on the news, which could help

OpenAI CEO Sam Altman will not get a stake in the restructured company. AFP FILE

OpenAI become publicly traded in the future. The new agreement keeps the two companies closely linked until at least 2032, through a massive cloud computing contract, with Microsoft retaining some rights to OpenAI products and AI models until then—even if OpenAI reaches artificial general intelligence (AGI), the point at which AI systems can match the capability of a well-educated human adult. Microsoft's previous 2019 agreement contained several provisions dependent on OpenAI achieving AGI. The updated deal introduces an independent panel to verify any claims by OpenAI that it has reached that milestone.

"OpenAI has completed its recapitalisation, simplifying its corporate structure," said Bret Taylor, chair of the OpenAI Foundation board. "The nonprofit remains in control of the for-profit entity and now has a direct path to major resources before AGI arrives." Microsoft has so far invested $13.8 billion in OpenAI. Tuesday's deal implies a return of nearly tenfold on that investment.

Gil Luria, head of technology research at DA Davidson, said the deal "resolves the longstanding issue of OpenAI being organised as a not-for-profit and settles the ownership rights of the technology vis-à-vis Microsoft."

PRAGMATIC APPROACH

Climate change won't end civilisation: Bill Gates

WASHINGTON, AFP

Climate change "will not lead to humanity's demise," billionaire philanthropist Bill Gates has argued in a long memo calling for a proportionate and pragmatic approach to tackling human-caused global warming.

The missive was published late Monday, days ahead of the COP30 climate summit in Brazil. Gates praised the meeting's focus on climate adaptation and human development.

The Microsoft founder, a major backer of green technologies through his Breakthrough Energy organisation, acknowledged that climate change will have "serious consequences" but added: "People will be able to live and thrive in most places on Earth for the foreseeable future."

He said he knew some climate advocates would disagree and call him a hypocrite because of his carbon footprint, which he said he fully offsets with "legitimate" carbon credits.

Gates outlined his "Three tough truths about climate": climate change will not end civilisation, temperature is not the best measure of progress, health and prosperity are the strongest defences against a warming world.

While the planet is dangerously off course in meeting the Paris Agreement's goal of limiting long-term warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, Gates argued that rather than fixating on the precise figure, the world should recognise progress in cutting emissions.

For most of the world's poor, he added, poverty and disease remain the more pressing problems.

"Our chief goal should be to prevent suffering, particularly for those in the toughest conditions who live in the world's poorest countries," he said.

That means, for example, less focus on limiting extremely hot and cold days, and more on ensuring "fewer people live in poverty and poor health so that extreme weather isn't such a threat to them."

Looking ahead, Gates said a key climate strategy should be to reduce the so-called green premium -- the cost difference between clean and dirty ways of doing something -- to zero for materials such as cement, steel and jet fuel.

WORLD AT A GLANCE

A woman dressed as a "Catrina" takes part in the Day of the Dead event to mark the 700th anniversary of Tenochtitlan in Mexico City on Monday. REUTERS

Lahore chokes past Delhi to become most polluted city

Pakistan's Lahore city was ranked the world's most polluted city on Monday as smog reached hazardous levels far exceeding World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines, PTI reports from Lahore.

While Punjab — with Lahore as its capital — does not have its own air quality index, the provincial government said it is actively implementing the Smog Emergency Plan, particularly in Lahore. According to IQAir, Lahore's air quality index (AQI) climbed to a hazardous level of 312, with PM2.5 concentration — the most harmful particulate matter — reaching a staggering 190.5 micrograms per cubic metre. At 10 pm on Monday, Lahore topped the global chart of major cities, surpassing other pollution hotspots such as Delhi (AQI 220) and Kolkata (AQI 170), the statement added.

12 dead in Kenya plane crash

A small plane crashed in Kenya's coastal region of Kwale early Tuesday while en route to the Maasai Mara National Reserve, with 12 people feared dead, AP/PTI reports from Nairobi.

The crash occurred in a hilly and forested area about 40 kilometres from Diani airstrip, authorities said. Kwale County Commissioner Stephen Orinde told The Associated Press that the passengers were "all foreign tourists", and their nationalities would be confirmed later. The Kenya Civil Aviation Authority said 12 people were on board the Cessna Caravan-type aircraft and that authorities were investigating the crash.

Pope Leo XIV lights a candle during the "Daring Peace" event with faith leaders, advocacy groups and diplomatic representatives at the Colosseum in Rome on Tuesday. REUTERS

US tightens curbs on Chinese firms

The US Federal Communications Commission voted to tighten restrictions on telecommunications equipment made by Chinese firms, Reuters reports from Washington.

The US telecom regulator had earlier named companies including Huawei, ZTE, China Mobile, and China Telecom to its so-called "Covered List," which bars the FCC from authorising the import or sale of new equipment from those firms. The FCC voted 3-0 to prohibit the authorisation of devices containing component parts from companies on the list.

US strikes on drug boats kill 14

US forces killed 14 people in strikes that destroyed four alleged drug-smuggling boats in the eastern Pacific Ocean, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said on Tuesday, AFP reports from Washington.

This brings the death toll from Washington's controversial anti-narcotics campaign to at least 57. The US began carrying out the strikes — which experts say amount to extrajudicial killings — in early September, and has now destroyed at least 14 vessels in the Caribbean and Pacific.

Hurricane slams Jamaica

Hurricane Melissa made landfall in western Jamaica early Tuesday afternoon as a powerful Category 5 storm and the strongest ever to directly hit the Caribbean nation of 2.8 million people, Reuters reports from Kingston.

Melissa made landfall near the town of New Hope, some 62 km south of Montego Bay, packing maximum sustained winds of 185 mph, the US National Hurricane Center said in its latest advisory. The slow-moving storm is forecast to remain a powerful hurricane as it crosses the mountainous island, whose highland communities are vulnerable to landslides and flooding. Prime Minister Andrew Holness ordered mandatory evacuations for parts of southern Jamaica.

A hoarding frame collapses as Hurricane Melissa hits downtown Kingston, Jamaica, on Tuesday. REUTERS

Mehli Mistry's reappointment to Tata Trusts' board blocked

He was voted out by Noel Tata & two others

NEW DELHI, PTI

Tata Trusts chairman Noel Tata and two other powerful trustees considered close to him blocked the reappointment of late Ratan Tata's close associate and businessman Mehli Mistry as trustee, deepening the rift at the philanthropic arm that controls the holding company of Tata Group, people familiar with the matter said.

Noel Tata was appointed head of Tata Trusts following the death of Tata Group patriarch Ratan Tata last year.

TVS Motor Co's chairman emeritus Venu Srinivasan and former defence secretary Vijay Singh voted against Mistry's reappointment as trustee after the end of his three-year tenure on Tuesday, they said.

The three other trustees -- former Citibank India CEO Pramit Jhaveri, Mumbai lawyer Darius Khambata, and Pune-based philanthropist Jehangir HC Jehangir -- who are considered close to Mistry, supported his reappointment, they said.

The unprecedented vertical split marks a sharp departure from the recent consensus-driven approach.

Noel Tata and Mehli Mistry are two power centres in the Tata Trusts, which control a majority stake in the holding company of the Tata Group. The former has the backing of Srinivasan and former defence secretary Vijay Singh, while the other three are with Mistry.

Differences between the two groups came to the fore in September, when Mistry and three other trustees -- Jhaveri, Khambata and Jehangir -- voted to remove Singh as Tata Trusts' representative on the board of Tata Sons -- the holding company of the salt-to-software conglomerate.

However, last week, Srinivasan was made a lifelong trustee in a unanimous decision.

While Mistry had remained tight-lipped about his next move, it is likely he will challenge it in court.

The challenge may be on the ground that a joint meeting of the Sir Ratan Tata Trust and the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust on October 17 last year -- within days of the death of Ratan Tata -- had agreed to make all trustees permanent.

When contacted, Tata Trusts declined to comment.

Last week, the CEO of Tata Trusts issued a circular to other trustees seeking Mistry's reappointment to the Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT), the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (SDTT), and the Bai Hirabai Jamsetji Tata Navsari Charitable Institution.

At SRTT, trustees are Noel Tata, Venu Srinivasan, Vijay Singh, Jimmy Tata, Jehangir HC Jehangir, Mehli Mistry and Darius Khambata.

On the other hand, at SDTT, trustees are Noel Tata, Venu Srinivasan, Vijay Singh, Mehli Mistry, Pramit Jhaveri and Darius Khambata.

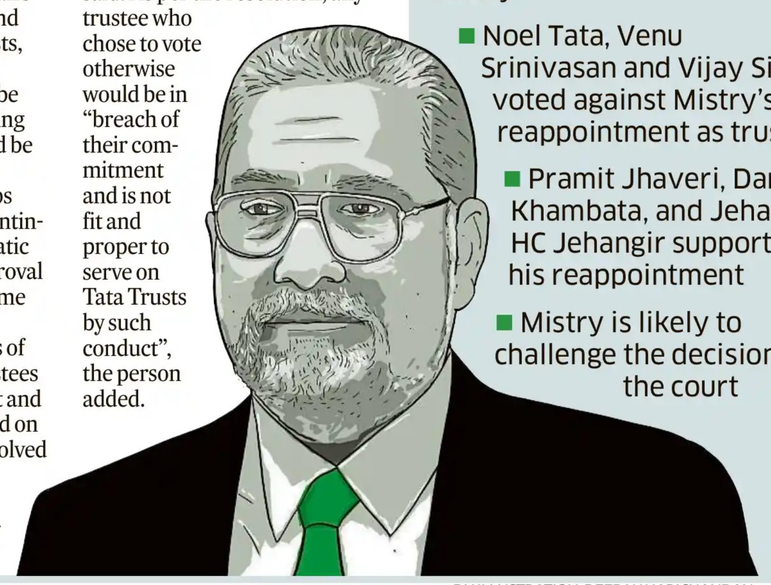
Sources said Mistry, along with three other trustees -- Jhaveri, Jehangir and Khambata --, while approving Srinivasan's reappointment as trustee and Vice-Chairman of Tata Trusts, had put a condition that all future renewals of trustees be approved unanimously, failing which their approvals would be withdrawn.

Opinions in the two camps were divided on whether continuation of a trustee is automatic or requires unanimous approval from the trustees for a lifetime tenure.

According to the minutes of the joint meeting of the trustees of the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust and the Sir Ratan Tata Trust held on October 17, 2024, it was resolved that on the expiry of the tenure of any trustee, the trustee would be reappointed by the concerned trust without any limit being attached to the period of tenure, a source said. As per the resolution, any trustee who chose to vote otherwise would be in "breach of their commitment and is not fit and proper to serve on Tata Trusts by such conduct", the person added.

The story so far

- Mehli Mistry is a close associate of late Ratan Tata and cousin of late Cyrus Mistry
- Noel Tata, Venu Srinivasan and Vijay Singh voted against Mistry's reappointment as trustee
- Pramit Jhaveri, Darius Khambata, and Jehangir HC Jehangir supported his reappointment
- Mistry is likely to challenge the decision in the court



DH ILLUSTRATION: DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
(ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ)

No.EE/PWD/BD/TS-06/Deposit Grants/2025-26/3764 Dated: 24.10.2025

Tender Corrigendum Notification

Sub: Tender corrigendum for the work invited for tender under 8443-PAP-AWP&B.

Ref: This office tender notification No.EE/PWD/BD/TS-06/Deposit Grants/2024-25/3182 Dated:12.09.2025.

The tenderers are requested to note that, due to technical reasons, the indent number of the following works, invited for tender under this office notification cited above have been changed. Other conditions remain unaltered. If any, will be notified separately.

Sl No	Indent number notified earlier	Changed indent Number
1)	PWD/2025-26/BD/ WORK_INDENT22610	PWD/2025-26/BD/ WORK_INDENT28287

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division, Ballari.

Gold plunges Rs 4,100

NEW DELHI, PTI: Gold prices dropped by Rs 4,100 to Rs 1,21,800 per 10 grams in the national capital and slipped below $4,000 an ounce in the global markets on Tuesday as easing US-China trade tensions dampened safe-haven appeal.

According to the All India Sarafa Association, the precious metal had closed at Rs 1,25,900 per 10 grams on Monday. Silver prices also registered a steep fall of Rs 6,250 to Rs 1,45,000 per kilogram (inclusive of all taxes) on Tuesday. The white metal had ended at Rs 1,51,250 per kg on Monday.

Amazon to lay off 14,000 employees amid AI-driven changes

It employs about 1.30 lakh people in India

UMA KANNAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

E-commerce giant Amazon will cut about 14,000 corporate jobs as the company makes organisational changes, mainly driven by the adoption of artificial intelligence. Employees have begun receiving emails starting Tuesday.

In a note to its employees, the ecommerce company announced that it is working hard to support everyone whose role is impacted, including offering most employees 90 days to look for a new role internally.

Employees across various countries will be impacted. An email sent to the Amazon India team regarding layoffs went unanswered.

Beth Galetti, Senior VP of People Experience and Technology at Amazon, said in a note, "Some may ask why we're reducing roles when the company is performing well. Across our businesses, we're delivering great customer experiences every day, innovating at a rapid rate, and producing strong business results. What we need to remember is that the world is changing quickly. This generation of AI is the most transformative technology we've seen since the Internet, and it's enabling companies to innovate much faster than ever before (in existing market segments and altogether new ones). We're convicted that we need to be organised more leanly, with fewer layers and more ownership, to move as quickly as possible for our customers and business."

The company has been reducing its workforce for more than two years now. It employs about 1,30,000 people in India. In early 2023, the company fired over 1,000 employees in India.

Globally, the company announced a workforce reduction of 18,000 employees in January 2023, and again in March, it laid off 9,000 more employees.

According to layoffs.fyi, which tracks tech layoffs, in 2025, about 1,28,732 tech employees have been laid off by 218 tech companies.

Aditya Narayan Mishra, MD and CEO of CIEL HR, said, large-scale layoffs linked to AI transitions show that the shift to automation is not without its challenges. Many companies moved too quickly to restructure, assuming technology would instantly replace human capability. In reality, AI delivers value only when it's integrated thoughtfully, with clear processes, reskilling, and human oversight.

"The lesson here is that sustainable transformation requires balance between efficiency and empathy," he said.

Galetti in the message to employees noted, "Last year, Andy (Andy Jassy, president and CEO of Amazon) posted a note about strengthening our culture and teams – explaining how we want to operate like the world's largest startup, the importance of having the right structure to drive that level of speed and ownership, and the need to be set up to invent, collaborate, be connected, and deliver the absolute best for customers. Many of you have put significant effort into that work of strengthening your organisations by reducing layers, increasing ownership, and helping reduce bureaucracy," Galetti said.

The company also announced that, looking ahead to 2026, it is expecting to continue hiring in key strategic areas while also finding additional places where it can remove layers, increase ownership and realise efficiency gains.

Earlier in June this year, Amazon's CEO had said that they would need fewer people doing some of the jobs that were being done today. As the company has been rolling out more Gen AI and agents, he said, this should change the way work is being done.

Government of Karnataka
Office of the Executive Engineer
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Mysore – 570023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION NO.13/ 2025-26/ DATED: 15-10-2025

(Two Cover System)

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka the Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Mysore invites tender in co-ordination with e-procurement portal platform, Bangalore. Tender format as per **KW-4** through e-procurement under the Head of Account **2025-26** Karnataka Police Academi Mysore Centre **4055-00-207-0-04-386** (Deposit Grants) **& 2024-25 Year 5054 Grant** for Mysore Taluk. Date of application submission for tender document and submission of filled tender through online **Date: 27.10.2025 to 10.11.2025 upto 16.00 hours, Pre Bid Meeting Date 04-11-2025 16.00 Hours.** Last date for clarifications/ queries on tender **Date: 07-11-2025 upto 16.00 Hours**. If possible the date of opening of technical bid of the tender **Date: 11-11-2025 after 17.00 hours**. After the approval of Technical bid the Financial Bid will be opened. Tender Form Fee: As per e-procurement Details as belows.

Sl. No	Name of work	Estimate Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	Approximate Value of work (Rs. in lakhs)	Earnest Money Deposit (in Rs)
1	Construction of 5 Lane 400 Meter Synthetic Athletic Track at Karnataka Police Academi Mysore in Mysore City (Indent No.RDPR/2025-26/OW/ WORK_INDENT19614)	254.00	212.69	3,19,500.00
2	Improvement of Road from Udbhuru Village to Thaluru Village in Jayapura Hobli, Mysore Taluk,Mysore Dist. (Indent No.RDPR/2025-26/RD/ WORK_INDENT19498)	148.00	121.16	1,82,000.00

Contractor Eligibility: Class – II& above

For more details visit website: htpp://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in or contact the Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Mysore (Ph: 0821-2560853) during office hours.

DIPR/DDMYS/1134/KSMCA/617/2025-26 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, PRED Division, Mysore**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ, ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,

ಸಂ: 10/2025–2026 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 27.10.2025

ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಐಟಂವಾರು ದರದ ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ **KW-3 & 4** ರರೀತಿ ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **https:// kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಾಗಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ. 1 ರಿಂದ 3 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ]

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆಯನ್ನುಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ರವರಕಛೇರಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಭಾಗ ಮಂಡ್ಯ, ರವರಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **06.11.2025**ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **11–00** ಗಂಟೆಗೆಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ **28.10.2025** ರಿಂದ ಇ–ಪೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ **11.11.2025** ಸಂಜೆ **4.00**ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ **12.11.2025** ಸಂಜೆ **4.30**ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ, ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ **13.11.2025** ಸಂಜೆ **4.31** ಘಂಟೆ ನಂತರ ಅಥವಾ ನಂತರದ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಗಳು, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ **14.11.2025** ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **11.00** ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಅಥವಾ ನಂತರದ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಗಳು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ಬೆಲೆ ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ರಂತೆ. ಕಾಲಮಿತಿ: ಮಳೆಗಾಲ ಸೇರಿ **3/4** ತಿಂಗಳು ದಿನಗಳು,

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.4ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ]

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆಯನ್ನುಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ರವರಕಛೇರಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಭಾಗ ಮಂಡ್ಯ, ರವರಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **21.11.2025**ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **11–00** ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ **28.10.2025** ರಿಂದ ಇ–ಪೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ **25.11.2025** ಸಂಜೆ **4.00** ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ **26.11.2025** ಸಂಜೆ **4.30** ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ, ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ **27.11.2025** ಸಂಜೆ**4.31** ಘಂಟೆ ನಂತರ ಅಥವಾ ನಂತರದ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಗಳು, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ **28.11.2025** ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **11.00** ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಅಥವಾ ನಂತರದ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಗಳು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ಬೆಲೆ ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ರಂತೆ. ಕಾಲಮಿತಿ: ಮಳೆಗಾಲ ಸೇರಿ **4** ತಿಂಗಳು ದಿನಗಳು.

ಒಟ್ಟು **4** (ನಾಲ್ಕು), ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.**300.00** ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.**100.00** ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಬೆಲೆ ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ರಂತೆ, ಕೆಲಸಗಳ ವಿವರ, ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ., ಮೊತ್ತ ಮುಂತಾದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸದರಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಟಿಪ್ಪಣಿ:

1. ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡದೆಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯ ಮುಂದೂಡುವಿಕೆ/ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ರದ್ದುಗೊಳಿಸುವ/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಿರಾಕರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ.
2. ಇನ್ನು ಮುಂದೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳು ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ, ಬದಲಾಗಿ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/–ಕಾ.ಇಂ., ಲೋ.ಇ., ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ

BPCL, Oil India to build Rs 1L cr refinery, petchem complex in AP

HYDERABAD, REUTERS

State-run Bharat Petroleum Corp and explorer Oil India will jointly build a Rs 1 lakh crore refinery and petrochemical complex in Andhra Pradesh, marking a strategic shift for the driller as it expands beyond upstream operations.

Oil India is considering taking a 10%-20% stake in the planned refinery, while BPCL is seeking additional partners for the project, BPCL Chairman Sanjay Khanna said on the sidelines of an industry event in Hyderabad.

The refinery announcement comes as India, the world's third-largest oil importer and consumer, continues to rely on fossil fuels and is trying to position itself as a refining and petrochemical hub.

Oil India is also ramping up its downstream presence through its unit Numaligarh Refinery Ltd (NRL), which is expanding its refinery in Assam to 180,000 barrels per day by March 2027.

The proposed Andhra Pradesh refinery, with a capacity of 180,000-240,000 barrels per day, has received key statutory approvals and 6,000 acres of land from the state government, with pre-project work underway, BPCL said in a statement.

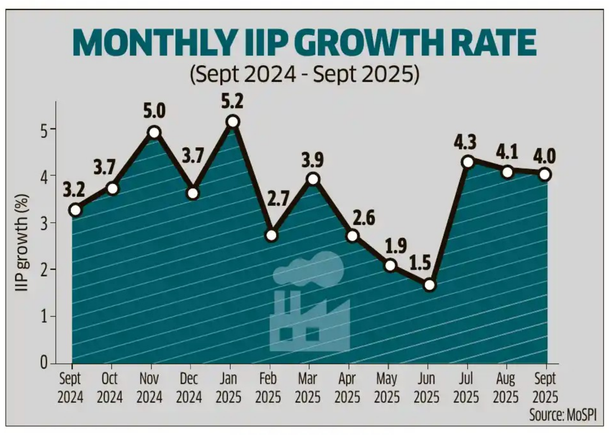
The petrochemical complex will feature a 1.5-million-tonne ethylene cracker and is expected to start commercial operations by fiscal year 2030.

Oil India is also partnering with BPCL and NRL on a 700-km fuel pipeline from Siliguri to Mughalsarai that will carry petrol, diesel and jet fuel. BPCL will hold a 50% stake in the project, while Oil India and NRL will share the remainder.

BPCL on Tuesday additionally said it has partnered with Fertilisers & Chemicals Travancore to market organic fertilisers from its Kochi biogas plant.

BPCL is India's second-biggest state-run refiner, with 706,000 barrels per day of crude capacity across three refineries.

BPCL's refinery in Mumbai.



Industrial output growth remains steady at 4% in Sept

Main driver was manufacturing sector which expanded by 4.8%

NEW DELHI, PTI

India's industrial production growth remained steady at 4% in September this year due to the good performance of the manufacturing sector buoyed by GST rationalisation and festive demand, according to official data released on Tuesday.

The factory output, measured in terms of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), had expanded by 3.2% in September 2024.

The National Statistics Office (NSO) revised the industrial production growth to 4.1% for August 2025 from the provisional estimate of 4% released last month.

Commenting on the IIP data, Aditi Nayar Chief Economist, ICRA Ltd said, "Overall, the combination of GST rate rejig, pent-up demand and the early festive onset appears to have boosted demand in September-October 2025, which is expected to augur well for the growth in manufacturing output in October 2025 as well."

While the GST rationalisation may support demand for regular use/smaller ticket items post the festive season, the sustenance of the buoyancy in demand for big-ticket items remains to be seen, she added.

The latest NSO data showed that the manufacturing sector's output expanded by 4.8% in September 2025 against 4% in the year-ago month.

Mining production contracted by 0.4% against a growth of 0.2% recorded a year ago. Power production rose by 3.1% in September 2025 against 0.5% expansion in the year-ago period.

During the April-September period (H1) of FY26, the country's industrial production grew by 3% compared to 4.1% in the first half of 2024-25. Within the manufacturing sector, 13 of 23 industry groups recorded positive growth in September 2025 compared with September 2024.

As per the use-based classification, the capital goods segment grew 4.7% in September 2025, up from 3.5% in the year-ago period. Consumer durables (or white goods production) growth accelerated to 10.2% during the reporting month from 6.3% growth in September 2024. In September 2025, consumer non-durables output declined by 2.9%, as against a growth of 2.2% a year ago.

Infrastructure/construction goods reported a growth of 10.5% in September 2025, up from a 3.5% expansion in the year-ago period. The data also showed that the output of primary goods increased by 1.4% in September 2025 against 1.8% growth a year earlier.

OpenAI giving away year of free ChatGPT to lure more India users

BLOOMBERG: OpenAI Inc. is offering a free year of its ChatGPT Go service to users in India, raising its bid to capture a market of 1.4 billion people.

The world's most valuable startup will open the free promotion to users on November 4, to coincide with its first DevDay Exchange in the country. Users who sign up will get a free year of ChatGPT Go, which was first introduced in India — as the most affordable paid tier — in August at a cost of Rs 399 per year.

ChatGPT Go has proven instantly popular since its August debut, helping to more than double OpenAI's paid subscribers in India, according to the company. The San Francisco-based startup has since expanded ChatGPT Go to nearly 90 global markets, but India remains a point of focus for the entire sector. Artificial intelligence model builders are seeking to amass users as well as human-generated data from millions of English-speaking Indians.

Rival Perplexity AI Inc. offers free access to its premium plan through a partnership with telecom giant Bharti Airtel Ltd., while Alphabet Inc.'s Google made its Gemini AI Pro membership freely accessible to students for a year.

ChatGPT Go combines the chatbot's most popular features with higher message limits, more image generation and larger file uploads than the standard unpaid version.

"India is ChatGPT's second-largest and one of its fastest-growing markets," OpenAI said in a statement on Tuesday.

NCLAT gives go-ahead to Aakash EGM on rights issue

NEW DELHI, PTI: The insolvency appellate tribunal NCLAT on Tuesday gave a go-ahead to the EGM of Aakash Educational Services Ltd (AESL) for the rights issue of the company. A two-member bench dismissed the interim application (IA) filed by Glas Trust, the largest lender of the insolvency-bound Think & Learn Pvt Ltd (TLPL), which owns edtech firm Byju's. "We do not find that IA... deserved to be allowed. It is hence, dismissed," NCLAT said.

AESL is scheduled to have the EGM on October 29, 2025. The Chennai bench of the appellate tribunal has passed the order in open court.

Karnataka, UP game hangs in balance

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Col CK Nayudu U-23 Elite Group D match between Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh is hanging in balance following a battling third day's play at the Victoria Park Stadium in Meerut on Tuesday.

Resuming at their overnight score of 50/2 after gaining the vital first innings lead (20 runs), Karnataka colts couldn't really capitalise as they were bowled out for 248 in 76.1 overs. Most of the batters like Aneeshwar Gautam (42), Karthikeya KP (53), Harshil Dharmani (30), Dhruv Prabhakar (25) and Hardik Raj (33) got off to starts but their inability to go on and make a big score hurt the state's chances of setting a formidable target.

Left-arm orthodox spinners Shubham Mishra (4/91) and Kartik Yadav (4/52) did all the damage, sharing eight of the 10 wickets between them.

Karnataka's meek performance with the bat left UP with a target of 268 runs and the hosts were off to a disastrous start, losing opener Mohd Aashiyan in the opening over and one-drop Swastik on the second ball of the second over. At 7/2, UP were in trouble but Adarsh Singh (38 not out) and Rituraj Sharma steadied the ship with an 80-run stand for the third wicket.

Samit Dravid injected life back into Karnataka by dismissing Rituraj towards the end of the day's play as UP took stumps at 92/3. But with 177 runs left to get, it could be anybody's game on Wednesday.

Brief scores: Karnataka: 235 & (O/n: 50/2) 248 all out in 76.1 overs (Aneeshwar Gautam 42, Karthikeya KP 53, Harshil Dharmani 30, Dhruv Prabhakar 25, Hardik Raj 33; Shubham Mishra 4-91, Kartik Yadav 4-52) vs Uttar Pradesh: 215 & 92/3 in 30 overs (Adarsh Singh 38 n.o., Rituraj Sharma 37).

EBFC blank Chennaiyin 4-0

BAMBOLIM (GOA), PTI: East Bengal FC ignited their semifinal hopes with a commanding 4-0 win over Chennaiyin FC in Group A of the AIFF Super Cup here on Tuesday.

The result also confirmed Chennaiyin's elimination from the tournament.

CRICKET WOMEN'S ODI WORLD CUP

Proteas chase balance

Inconsistent South Africa take on resurgent England in the first semifinal

GUWAHATI, PTI

South Africa will hope to address their batting frailties against spin and produce a solid all-round show when they face four-time champions England in the first semifinal of the ICC Women's World Cup here on Wednesday.

En route to the knockout stage, South Africa suffered two heavy defeats and their batting came apart against spin on both occasions.

Left gutted after being bowled out for 69 in their opening game, the South Africans recovered well to record narrow but gritty wins over New Zealand, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

However, their struggles against spin resurfaced in the final league game against Australia, who bundled them out for just 97 in 24 overs.

While the South African batters failed to pick the line and were undone by the drift against England, they were completely left gobsmacked by Alana King's leg-spin in the match against Australia.

England will look to exploit this South African weakness again and rely not only on their all-round strength but also on their spin trio of Sophie Ecclestone, Linsey Smith and Charlie Dean to stifle the South African batters.

Seamer Lauren Bell will need to apply pressure early on, while Alice Capsey has been in good bowling rhythm, having claimed five wickets.

For South Africa, captain Laura Wolvaardt has led from the front with 301 runs in seven matches at an average of 50.16, including three half-centuries. But except for Wolvaardt, few South African batters have shown consistent form.

Tazmin Brits, who struck 101 against India in Indore, has since managed three ducks, a 55 and a 6, underlining her shaky form. She had scored three consecutive centuries before the World Cup, and South Africa will hope she can provide a solid start on the big day.

Sune Luus (157 runs) and Marizanne Kapp (162) have also been inconsistent, contributing to the team's batting woes. Some of their shot selection against Australia were questionable, and they will need to be spot on with their execution against England.

England, on the other hand, will head into the high-pressure clash with plenty of confidence, having hammered South Africa by 10 wickets in their tournament opener at the same venue.

For England, it has been a strong comeback since their home series loss to India.

Skipper Laura Wolvaardt will be expected to lead South Africa from the front once again in the first semifinal against England in Guwahati on Wednesday. AP/PTI

Dooravani bowlers trump Kirthan show

BENGALURU, DHNS

The collective effort of the bowlers from Dooravani Cricketers (1) overshadowed Kirthan N Reddy's six-wicket effort for Jupiter Cricketers Association to give the former a 24-run victory in the KSCA Group I - I, II, III Division Under-14 Inter-Club tournament here.

Batting first, Dooravani Cricketers (1) managed a mere 135 all out in 47.2 overs with Kirthan (6/24) being the wrecker-in-chief for Jupiter Cricketers Association while Ayush chipped in with two wickets.

Brief scores: Dooravani Cricketers (1): 135 all out in 47.2 overs (Shyam Karan A 26, Krishav Karthik 33; Shreyas Gupta 2-34, Kirthan N Reddy 6-24, Ayush BM 2-12) bt Jupiter CA: 110/9 in 50 overs (Yogananda Reddy 2-22, Madaka Rohith 2-11, Krishav Karthik 2-6, Aarav Mishra S 2-24).

Bangalore Occasionals: 150 all out in 48.4 overs (Aayat Rahim Khan 25, Sairaj R Porwal 58; Syed Ayyan Fareez 3-28) lt to Jayanagar Cricketers: 151/6 in 34 overs (Md. Hashmath Ullah 87, Sanjay V 30; Shamith Y 2-25, Amit SS 3-21).

Jawahar Sports Club (2): 77 all out in 36 overs (Pranil Kenganur 2-16, Farhan Ahmed Shaikh 2-10, Anirudh Saha 2-21) lt to Sir Syed Cricketers: 79/1 in 12.2 overs (Naveena G 27).

Visweswarapuram CC (1): 217/7 in 50 overs (Advay Choudhary 28, Abhyuday T 31, Atharv Shrivastav 41; Shreyansh Kothiyal 2-29) bt Jawans CC: 88 all out in 35.4 overs (Tejasvi Sharma 2-14, Aditya Singh 3-16).

Vultures CC: 184 all out in 48.4 overs (Bhofinn Sanjeevareddy 62, Jagan Mohan V 26; Chiranjeevi BG 2-35, Piyush Raj L 3-30, S M Bhavith 2-9) bt Bangalore United CC (1): 116/8 in 50 overs (Aarav Singh 3-24, P Md Ashish 2-21, Parinith K 2-31).

Herons CC: 160/8 in 50 overs (Gagan Y 41, Mahin Srikanth 43, Siddharth Ram Narayan 4-31) bt Minerva CC: 78 all out in 34.2 overs (Ashwwath Nagarajan 4-12, Syed Hammad Ulla 2-16).

Neptune CC: 157 all out in 44.3 overs (Vivaan Puthal 29, Darsh Raikar 34, Muhammed Luqhman J 25; Yedwath Bharathwaj 4-18, Vihan HB 2-28, J Jasim Rahman 2-11) lt to Citizen Cultural CA: 158/6 in 44.4 overs (J Jasim Rahman 30, KY Hemanth Krishna 29, Jashith BS 30; Darsh Raikar 3-27).

On Monday: Social Cricketers: 261/4 in 50 overs (Athreya Bhat 139 n.o, Ryan Tomar 38, Shaurya Gowda 42; D Mohith 2-41) bt Citizen Cultural Cricket Association: 118 all out in 47.1 overs (Yedwath Bharathwaj 33 n.o.; Vyom Naidu 2-22, Tanush Das 2-21, Vastvik Sharma 3-28).

Super Cricket Club: 78 all out in 35.3 overs (Ashith Vasist Markala 3-11) lt to Bharath Cricket Club: 79/8 in 36.4 overs (Daivik Gowda GB 2-21, Abhirath Praveen 2-12, Nihar Kondra 2-13, HS Poorvik Shetty 2-20).

South End Sports Club: 154 all out in 46.2 overs (Jayavardhan KC 60, Ravi Bharghav Gowda 24; Laksh Kaul 4-31, Aarush Kamboj 3-13, Atharva Jaiswal 3-39) bt Johnson Cricket Club: 71 all out in 30.1 overs (Shreyas Nayak 2-12, Kanthesh G Kakanur 3-5).

Friends Union Cricket Club (2): 53 all out in 22.1 overs (Preetham Gowda 3-13, Mihir Sudheer Nayak 5-6) lt to Malleswaram United Cricket Club: 54/1 in 10 overs.

Friends Cricket Club: 86 all out in 42.3 overs (Saket Chandramouli 2-14, Samarth A Warad 2-8) lt to Mathikere Cricket Club: 87/0 in 15.2 overs (Surya DC 35 n.o., Pratham Satish 40 n.o.).

LOCAL CRICKET

Southern Cricketers: 187/9 in 36 overs (Raja Amareshwar Nayak 40, SK Sharath 57 n.o.; Rahul Jena 3-20, Mohammed Yaseen 2-27) bt Young Lions Club: 151 all out in 35.3 overs (Mohammed Yaseen 38, Md. Aasiph 25; Gaurav V 2-36, SK Sharath 3-28).

Neptune Cricket Club: 174/8 in 45 overs (Joshua Immanuel Batchu 48, Vivaan Puthal 25; V Sumukha 2-18, Vishruth G 2-14) bt National United Cricket Club: 137/8 in 45 overs (V Sumukha 28; Moksh Parekh 3-11) by 37 runs.

Engrades Cricket Club: 155 all out in 49.2 overs (Rohit Sai Ketireddi 26, Gnanesh Subramani 29; Aniket Chaturvedi 2-23, Shaan M Begur 5-21) lt to Vijaya Cricket Club: 156/8 in 49.4 overs (Pranav Jadagoudar 41, Gagan Metre 33; Sriman Pratyush Reddy Alamuru 2-33, Rivansh Mohapatra 2-23, J V Herash 2-24).

Century Cricketers: 141/7 in 49 overs (Sachith Shetty 57, Ayush 33 n.o.; Nihal Smaran Kumar 2-23, Mohammed Azlaan 2-20) bt Wilson Garden Cricket Club: 137 all out in 45.4 overs (Arnav Rajiv VP 38; Laksh Manickam 2-20, Lalitaditya 2-18, Tungish BS 3-32, Sachith Shetty 2-25).

A much-needed victory for Students Union

BENGALURU, DHNS: Languishing at the wrong end of the table after 12 games, MFAR Students Union FC scored only their second victory after blanking ASC & Center FC 3-0 in the KSFA Super Division League Championship at the Bangalore Football Stadium here on Tuesday.

Ankit Singh was the first to score as early as the fourth minute before the scoreboard went silent at 1-0 in favour of SUFC. That slender lead was doubled when Nivrutti Sunil Pavanoji found the back of the net in the 63rd.

Trailing by two goals, ASC & CFC's struggles mounted when Sabir Khan scored an own goal in the 88th minute that saw Students Union walk away with some much-needed cheer to their troubled campaign thus far.

Results: MFAR Students Union FC: 3 (Ankit Singh 4th, Nivrutti Sunil Pavanoji 63rd, Sabir Khan 88th OG) bt ASC & Center FC: 0; FC Real Bengaluru: 5 (Vaishak A 17th, Syed Ahmed 45+2nd, 45+4th, Rishant Beniwal 82nd, Ajay Alex Antony 90+3rd) bt Bharat Bengaluru FC: 1 (Sonam Sherpa 64th); MEG & Centre FC: 2 (Niyas Nazar 5th, Pravesh Bisht 48th) drew with Bangalore City FC: 2 (RS Jlcis 23rd, Ajay Shankar Kadam 90+1st).

Dimitrov wins on comeback

PARIS, AFP: Grigor Dimitrov returned to action by beating Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard 7-6 (7/5), 6-1 in the first round of the Paris Masters on Monday as the event made its debut in its new La Defense Arena home.

After being held for nearly 40 years at Paris' Bercy Arena, the tournament has moved across the city to set up shop in the multi-purpose arena.

Opened in 2017, the venue is best known as the home ground of French Top 14 rugby club Racing 92 and for having played host to the swimming events at the Olympics last year. It also welcomes concerts and political rallies.

Now in its current guise as a tennis venue, La Defense Arena boasts the second largest showpiece court on the current global tennis circuit -- second only in size terms to the US Open's Arthur Ashe Stadium.

Police patrol the BFS during a KSFA Super Division League game on Tuesday. DH PHOTO/ BK JANARDHAN

KSFA has learnt little from past incident

SIDNEY KIRAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

"Once bitten, twice shy" goes the famous saying. Karnataka State Football Association appears to be blissfully oblivious to this universal truth. Exemplifying this negligence is the scary incident on Monday when a group of men, armed with machetes, chased a spectator during a league game and nearly hacked him to death inside the premises.

During the KSFA Super Division Championship League match between FC Bengaluru United and Sporting Club Bengaluru on Monday at the Bangalore Football Stadium, a group of half-a-dozen men chased down a spectator, later identified as Sathya, during half-time.

Sathya, a footballer himself, ran for his life before taking shelter in the basement when officials informed the local police. Thanks to the timely intervention of the cops, the armed men fled the scene while Sathya was taken for questioning before being let off as he chose not to file complaint.

Although the match between FCBU and SCB resumed and the league continued on Tuesday, the issue once again highlighted the lack of security at the venue that's notorious for armed conflicts.

In September 2021, five armed men hacked a fellow rowdy to death inside the referees' room during a KSFA Women's A Division League game. Just like Monday's incident, rowdies then chased the victim in the stands before bludgeoning him to death in broad daylight that left the football fraternity and the women players in shock.

With the gates open during games and hardly any security checks in place despite a murder having taken place, the stadium is a free pass for anyone with anything. Fortunately, no player was harmed during both the incidents but KSFA seems to have learnt little from past experience. Also the stand adjacent to the Hosmat Hospital, from where the attackers entered the stadium, is completely dilapidated and the thick bushes beneath make it a breeding ground for nefarious activities.

"We have taken note of the incident," KSFA secretary M Kumar told *DH*. When asked what measures the association is planning to take to beef up the security, Kumar had no answers. "We will call for a meeting soon and discuss it," was Kumar's short reply without confirming when they plan to meet to discuss such a serious incident.

DH reached out to NA Haris, the president of KSFA, but didn't elicit any response.

Karnataka boys make quarters exit

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Karnataka U-19 team suffered a close defeat by four runs to Hyderabad in the quarterfinals of the Vinoo Mankad Trophy in Rajkot on Tuesday.

Skipper Anvay Dravid's **(in pic)** 38 not out off 30 balls went in vain as Karnataka innings ended at 132/6 while chasing 137 at the Sanosara Cricket Ground 'A'.

Medium pacer Nipun Reddy (1/33) did the star turn as he gave away just six runs in the final over to take Hyderabad into the semifinals.

Earlier, choosing to field first, Karnataka bowlers restricted Hyderabad to 136/8 in 20 overs as pacer Vaibhav Sharma bowled a tight 3/18 in his full quota of overs.

Brief scores: Hyderabad: 136/8 in 20 overs (Karan Yadav 40, Aawez Ahmed 37; Vaibhav Sharma 3-18) bt Karnataka: 132/6 in 20 overs (Anvay Dravid 38 n.o., Rehan Mohammed 25; Uzair Ahmed 3-22).

Ashwa Kanchenjunga wins

DELHI RESULTS

Ashwa Kanchenjunga, from the stables of S Nawab and ridden by Narendra Kumar, won the upper division of the Air Head Quarters Plate, the feature event of the races on Tuesday.

1. Jaguar Plate (Div I) - 1100M: Nairobi (Shivam) 1; Master Causeway (Rajinder Saini) 2; Jet Sukhoi (R Parvesh) 3; Ashwa Kanika (GS Shekhawat) 4; Wb: 7-1/4, 5-1/2, 6-1/4L. T: 1:06.19. TB: R Kumar. Fav: Nairobi.

2. Jaguar Plate (Div II) -1100M: Cool Water (SH Abbas) Musammil Hashmi 1; Dashing Harry (Shivam) 2; Ustaad Ji (Sarav Rawat) 3; Senor (Parvesh) 4; NR: Divine Dancer & Divya Shakti. Wb: 5, 2-1/2, 2-1/2L. T: 1:07.26. TB: SH Abbas K. Fav: Ashwa Harbir.

3. Indian Air Force Trophy - 1100M: Bellagio (Mohd Talib) 1; Tequila (Aasif Khan) 2; Beejay (RN Manjhi) 3; Danny's Girl (Kundan Paswan) 4; Wb: 3/4, Nk, 1-1/2L. 1:06.46. TB: S Nawab. Fav: Ashwa Pathan.

4. Air Head Quarters Plate (Div I) - 1200M: Ashwa Kanchenjunga (Narendra Kumar) 1; Ronaldo (Sunny Kumar) 2; Properly Posh (Parvesh) 3; Adbhut (Rakesh) 4; Wb: 1-1/2, Nk, 3-1/4L. 1:12.38. TB: S Nawab. Fav: Ashwa Kanchenjunga.

5. Air Head Quarters Plate (Div II) - 1200M: The Panther (Narendra Kumar) 1; Kenaf (Rakesh) 2; Eliminator (MB Qureshi) 3; Robust (Dhanu Deora) 4; Wb: 7-3/4, 1/2, 1/2L. T: 1:11.98. TB: S Nawab. Fav: The Panther.

6. Battle Of Honour Plate - 1200M: Master Bomber (Lave Kumar) 1; Winning Legacy (Yash Saini) 2; Cletus (MB Qureshi) 3; The Mentalist (Dhanu Deora) 4; NR: Super Speed. Wb: 1-1/2, 1, 5-3/4L. T: 1:13.00. TB: Mohsin Khan. Fav: The Mentalist.

7. Sukhoi Plate - 1000M: Ticker (Faizaan Khan) 1; Gamati (Arjun) 2; Ashwa Supremo (Mohd Talib) 3; Euphoria (Jai Parkash) 4; Wb: 1, 5-1/2, 1/2L. T: 1:00.24. TB: SH Abbas. Fav: Ticker.

Bengaluru dividends

I race: Rs 12w; 11, 15, 16p; Fc: Rs 94; Q: Rs 197; Shp: Rs 37; Thp: Rs 37; Tri: Rs 1,329 & 211; Ex: Rs 6,185 & 2,982.

II race: Rs 59w; 22, 10, 14p; Fc: Rs 1,548; Q: Rs 342; Shp: Rs 22; Thp: Rs 23; Tri: Rs 11,983 & 2,567; Ex: Rs 9,856 (c/o).

III race: Rs 32w; 17, 21, 18p; Fc: Rs 204; Q: Rs 182; Shp: Rs 52; Thp: Rs 64; Tri: Rs 510 & 169; Ex: Rs 1,996 & 1,833.

IV race: Rs 18w; 12, 18, 18p; Fc: Rs 57; Q: Rs 35; Shp: Rs 39; Thp: Rs 46; Tri: Rs 144 & 77: Ex: Rs 660 & 303.

V race: Rs 14w; 11, 14, 36p; Fc: Rs 33; Q: Rs 33; Shp: Rs 25; Thp: Rs 83; Tri: Rs 781 & 528; Ex: Rs 1,637 & 485.

VI race: Rs 59w; 17, 12, 16p; Fc: Rs 222; Q: Rs 86; Shp: Rs 31; Thp: Rs 43; Tri: Rs 451 & 208; Ex: Rs 1,228 & 553.

VII race: Rs 17w; 10, 21, 45p; Fc: Rs 91; Q: Rs 32; Shp: Rs 35; Thp: Rs 66; Tri: Rs 1,731 & 535; Ex: Rs 3,917 & 1,439.

Jackpot: Rs 2,376 (45). **Runner-up:** Rs 121 (379). **Treble:** Rs 798 (27).

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No.SEE/Tr(Op)/S-Circle/EE(O)/AEE-2/25-26/EPR-14/3270-72 Date: 24.10.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

KPTCL invites bid against enquiry No. **KPTCL/SEE/Tr(M)/S-Circle/EE(O)/AEE-2/25-26/EPR-14/Call-2 Dated:09.09.2025** for **"The work of Upgradation of protection system at 220kV station, BWSSB, Tataguni, Kanakapura Road, Bengaluru on Turnkey Basis on Percentage Basis"** pertains to Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Bengaluru".

The Bids will be received through E-Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **29.10.2025.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the under signed.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Elecl.,)
Transmission (Operations) Circle-South, KPTCL,
Office Complex, Ground Floor, A.R.Circle, Bengaluru-560009

Karnataka State
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Shimoga Division, Shimoga
No.EE/PWD/Smg/JE-2/IFT-22/2025-26 Dtd:27.10.2025

Short term Tender Notification -2 Cover system

Tender invited thro' E-Procurement version-2 kppp.karnataka.gov.in for the below Indents by PWD Class- 3 & 4 above Contractors For needful information please contact Office P.No. 08182-274942 and Helpdesk Ph Nos. 080-25501216/ 080-25501227)

Tender documents down loading & submission dates:27-10-2025 to 03-11-2025

Reserved for SC 3054-03-337-0-05-200 SH Maintenance

1. Sagara taluk 1 Work (I.No: 28148)

Category-1 3054-04-337-1-10-200 MDR Maintenance

2. Sagara taluk 1 Work (I.No: 28168) Category-2 (A) 3054-03-337-0-05-200 SH Maintenance

3. Sagara taluk 1 Work (I.No:28759)

Tender documents down loading & submission dates:

Periods to complete the work is up to Date:31-08-2026 (Including Mansoon) If there any changes in published tenders it will be publishing in E-Procurement version-2 kppp.karnataka.gov.in Website only

Sd/- EE, PW Dept Division, Shimoga

DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/127/10/1147

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಒಂದು ಉದ್ಯಮ)
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಕನೀನಿ, ವಾರಾಹಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಸಿದ್ದಾಪುರ–576229. ಉಡುಪಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.

ದರಪಟ್ಟಿ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ಉಡುಪಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಕುಂದಾಪುರ ತಾಲೂಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವ "ಅಮಾಸೆಬೈಲು ಏತ ನೀರಾವರಿ ಯೋಜನೆ"ಯ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಸರ್ವೆ ಕನ್ಸಲ್ಟೆನ್ಸಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸದರಿ ಸರ್ವೆ ಕೆಲಸದ ಅಂದಾಜು ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದರವನ್ನು ಅಳವಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ, ದರಪಟ್ಟಿಯ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ 7 ದಿನಗಳೊಳಗೆ ಮುಚ್ಚಿದ ಲಕೋಟೆಯ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ನು ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಲು ಕೋರಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08259–284240 ಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಪಾಸಾಇ/ಸನಿಉ/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಐಎ/487/25–26 ದಿ: 28.10.25

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಕನೀನಿ, ವಾರಾಹಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಸಿದ್ದಾಪುರ, ಉಡುಪಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ.
Reg.No:205/1995-96-Recognized by Medical Council of India, New Delhi vide No:MCI-57(3)/79-Med/1912, Dtd.16-04-1979
e-mail-ids:directorbmcrcbellary@gmail.com,
website : https://bmcrc.karnataka.gov.in

ಸಂ.ಬಿಎಂಸಿಆರ್ಸಿ/ಶುಮವಿ/104/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:24.10.2025

ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯಂತೆ 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಶುಶ್ರೂಷ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಉಳಿಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಬಿಎಸ್ಸಿ ನರ್ಸಿಂಗ್ ಕೋರ್ಸ್‌ನ ಸೀಟುಗಳನ್ನು **Walk in Admission** ಮೂಲಕ ಮೆರಿಟ್ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ **Offline Counseling** ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಲು ಅರ್ಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಹಾಜರಾಗುವ ಸ್ಥಳ ಮತ್ತು ದಿನಾಂಕ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿದೆ.

ಸ್ಥಳ: ಸಕಾ9ರಿ ಶುಶ್ರೂಷ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಆವರಣ, ಕಂಟೋನ್ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪ್ರದೇಶ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ – 583104
ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.10.2025. **ಸಮಯ:** ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 9.00 ರಿಂದ ಸಂಜೆ 5.00ರವರೆಗೆ
ಷರತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳು:–

1)**ದಿನಾಂಕ:30.10.2025ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 9.00 ರಿಂದ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 1.00ರವರೆಗೆ** ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಅಹ9 ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ನೊಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡುವುದು.

2)ನೊಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿ ನೇಮಿಸಿದ ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಧೃಢೀಕರಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.

3)ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 1.00ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮೆರಿಟ್ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಕರೆದು ಸೀಟು ಹಂಚಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಪಾಲಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

4)ಕೆಇಎ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ದಾಖಲಾತಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆಯಾಗಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲನಾ ಸ್ಲಿಪ್‌ಅನ್ನು ಪಡೆದಿರುವ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ನೊಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು.

5)ಕೆಇಎ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಿಇಟಿ ನೊಂದಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯನ್ನು ನಮೂದಿಸಿ ಕೆಇಎ ಮೆರಿಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಸೀಟುಗಳನ್ನು ಹಂಚಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು.

6)ಕೆಇಎ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸೀಟು ಹಂಚಿಕೆಯಾಗದೇ ಇರುವ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.

7)ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಪ್ರವೇಶಾತಿಗಾಗಿ **RGUHS** ನಿಂದ ಸೂಚಿಸಿದ ಅವಶ್ಯಕ ಮೂಲ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು **02** ಜೆರಾಕ್ಸ್ ಪ್ರತಿ ಹಾಗು ಭಾವಚಿತ್ರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು.

8)ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾದ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು **ರೂ.10,000/–** ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಹಾಗು **RUGHS** ಶುಲ್ಕ **ರೂ.5,600/–** ಶುಲ್ಕವನ್ನು ಸಂದಾಯ ಮಾಡತಕ್ಕದ್ದು ಹಾಗು ಇತರೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಶುಲ್ಕಗಳು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶದಂತೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಡೀನ್ ಹಾಗು ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಬಿಎಂಸಿ ಆರ್ ಸಿ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ.

ಡಿಐಪಿಆರ್/ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ/563/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL HOSAPETE
No: CMC HPT/WS/AMRUTH/2025-26 Dated: 27-10-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION (IFT) E-PROCUREMENT

2025-26 Jal hi Amrith tenders are invited for the work mentioned below as per KTPP act 2000 in two cover system are invited from the eligible Contractors/Firms registered in KPWD as mentioned below. in e-procurement the contractors / firms will have to upload all information, documents and rates etc., **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** 1) Tender Last **Date: 07-11-2025 5.00 PM.** 2) Opening for Technical Bid will be on **Date: 10-11-2025 5.10 PM.** 3) Opening for Financial Bid will be on **Date: 11-11-2025, 10.30 PM** Indent No: **1) DMA/2025-26/SE6039/CALL-2** Estimated Cost Rs in (Lakh) **193.93** (EMD : **Rs. 3,87,860.00)** any other information required can be obtained from the office of the CMC Hosapete during the working hours.

Sd/-Assistant Executive Engineer, CMC Hosapete **Sd/-Municipal Commissioner CMC Hosapete.**
DIPR/Vijayanagar/2025-26/KSMCA/RO No/314

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. DIVISION, GADAG.
Phone No : 08372-238782 Fax No. 08372-237268
E.Mail : eepwdgad@gmail.com
No: EEPWDGDG PB- 1: 2 3 4:Diferent Head: 2025-26/3119 Dated : 28-10-2025

Tender Notification

The Executive Engineer, Public works department. Division,Gadag invites itemwise tenders from eligible tenderers of **07** work of total amount of **Rs 268.49** Lakh (Min estimate amount: **Rs- 10.00** Lakhs to Max Estimate Amount: **72.07** Lakhs) for the Different Head of account on behalf of the Hon'able Governor of Karnataka as per Standard Bid Document KW- 1, 2, 3 and 4 through http://www. kppp. Karnataka. gov.in/

Work Indent No: Part-1 25898- SC/Call-2, 24008/Call-3, 23830/Call-2, and 23821/Call-2

(a) Last Date for Clarification up to : **03-11-2025** (b) Last Date for Receipt of Tenders : **05-11-2025** Noon 4.00 PM (c) Opening of Technical /Financial Bid Date: **06-11-2025** Opening of Financial Bid Date: **07-11-2025**

Work Indent No:- Part-2 22853- SC, 28449- SC, and 27835,

(a) Last Date for Clarification up to : **12-11-2025** (b) Last Date for Receipt of Tenders : **14-11-2025** Noon 4.00 PM (c) Opening of Technical /Financial Bid Date: **15-11-2025** Opening of Financial Bid Date: **17-11-2025**

GST shall be paid separately as per prevailing Government Order. The increase in GST shall not be paid in the extended period of contract for which the contractor alone is responsible for delay as determined by the authority while granting the extension of time.

DIPR/Gadag/KSMCA/350/2025-26 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Division, Gadag.**

IN BRIEF

Easy win for Canara Bank

Krishnan and Verghese K John netted a brace each after their team-mate Dinesh scored the opening goal to power Canara Bank to a 5-1 win over DYES, Ballari in the 9th edition of the Hockey Karnataka League Championship on Tuesday, reports DHNS.

Results: DYES 'B': 5 (Vachan HA 11th, Pranam Gowgd YM 16th, 28th, Mourya Thimmaiah 26th, 53rd min) bt Postal: 2 (Ramesh HT 20th, Basavaraj S Hongal 25th); Canara Bank: 5 (Dinesh 6th, Krishnan 9th, 33rd, Verghese K John 25th, 43rd) bt DYES, Ballari: 1 (Abhishek 59th).

Ryan stars for Vidyashilp

Ryan Karumbaiah stole the show by scoring a hat-trick that propelled Vidyashilp Academy to a comfortable 5-0 win over Ebenezer International School at the Baldwin Shield Inter-School football tournament on Tuesday, reports DHNS.

Results: Boys: Under-16: Baldwin Boys' High School: 0 drew with St. John's High School: 0; Bishop Cotton Boys' School: 0 drew with St. Joseph's Boys' High School: 0.
Under-14: Vidyashilp Academy: 5 (Ryan Karumbaiah 2nd, 10th, 23rd, Yakshit Singh 14th, Nirav M 20th) bt Ebenezer International School: 0; Baldwin Boys' High School: 0 drew with Ryan International School: 0; Ebenezer International School: 5 (Jonathan Jude 2nd, Kayden Antonio 4th, 13th, 18th, M Ethan 7th) bt St. Joseph's Boys' High School: 0.
Under-12: St. Joseph's Boys' High School: 0 bt Ebenezer International School: 0; Vidyashilp Academy: 0 drew with Ryan International School: 0; Baldwin Boys' High School: 1 (Trishith 19th) bt Ebenezer International School: 0; Bishop Cotton Boys' School: 0 bt St. Joseph's Boys' High School: 0.

Diya-Manush for WTT Finals

In a first for India, the mixed doubles pair of Diya Chitale and Manush Shah have qualified for the season ending WTT Finals, to be held in Hong Kong from Dec 10-14, reports PTI from New Delhi.

The event marks the culmination of the global WTT Series, featuring only the top-ranked players — the top 16 in men's and women's singles, and the top eight in mixed doubles pairs. Diya and Shah's consistent performances through the year — including a mixed doubles silver medal at the WTT Star Contender Brazil 2025 — have earned them the ticket to the Finals.

India U-20 women held

The India U-20 women's team drew 1-1 against Kazakhstan U-19 in the second and final friendly at the BIIK Sports Complex in Shymkent, Kazakhstan, on Tuesday, reports PTI from New Delhi.

Both goals came in the second half. Adeliya Bekkozhina handed the lead to the hosts in the 47th minute before Pooja, scoring her second goal in as many games, equalised in the 55th.

Roders exits as Celtic manager

Brendan Rodgers resigned as the Celtic manager and former boss Martin O'Neill and Shaun Maloney were put in temporary charge, reports AFP from Glasgow.

Rodgers' second spell at Celtic ended a day after Celtic lost at Hearts 3-1 and was second in the Scottish Premiership.

◆ ON TV ◆

CRICKET

1st T20I: Australia vs India (1:45 pm). **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

Women's WC semifinal: England vs South Africa (3 pm). **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

2nd ODI: New Zealand vs England (6:30 am). **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network, SonyLiv.**

TENNIS

Paris Masters: Round of 32 (3:30 pm). **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network, Sony LIV.**

CRICKET FIRST T20I

Skipper Surya IN SPOTLIGHT AGAIN

Right-hander has scored only 100 runs from last 10 innings

CANBERRA, PTI

The leader in Suryakumar Yadav will nudge the batter in him to take centre stage and start contributing handsomely with the willow when India take on Australia in the opening T20 International here on Wednesday.

It promises to be a battle on even keel with both countries having won eight of their last 10 T20I games with a defeat each. While India had one tied game, Australia saw one game washed out. While the captain's prolonged bad patch remains a cause of worry, the Indian T20 team has been the best of three national outfits, almost operating on autopilot with the new players taking on their roles like fish to water.

Since being appointed captain, Suryakumar's record has been phenomenal in terms of results, with 23 wins in 29 games so far, adhering to the new template of fearless cricket where every batter goes all guns blazing from ball one. The aggression at all costs and Surya's own leadership skills have worked really well with an all-win bilateral series record and the Asia Cup triumph, albeit, against some second rung continental teams, including Pakistan, who are a few light years behind India in terms of skill, quality and execution.

The Australia series marks the beginning of India's real preparation going into the T20 World Cup early next year with 15 games to get into the groove. But one can say that the result of this series will not have a major impact as the next 10 games against South Africa and New Zealand will be on familiar conditions, something similar to what they are likely to get in T20 World Cup.

While head coach Gautam Gambhir was unequivocal in his support for Surya and believes that he doesn't need to worry about his string of low scores, it is indeed time that the captain lets his bat do the talking. In 2023, Surya had batted in 18 innings, scoring 733 runs at a strike rate of nearly 156 and it comprised two tons and five half-centuries.

In 2024, he amassed little less than 450 runs at a strike-rate of 151 but cut to 2025, the Indian skipper has managed only 100 runs from 10 innings at an average of 11 runs per game. What stands out as an anomaly is his strike rate of over 105, which suggests that while he has struggled for runs, he hasn't completely abandoned his attacking intent.

"I feel I have been working really hard. Not that I wasn't working hard before. I have had a good few sessions back home, good 2-3 sessions here, so I am in a good space," the skipper said at the pre-series press conference at the Manuka Oval.

Teams: India: Suryakumar Yadav (C), Abhishek Sharma, Shubman Gill (VC), Tilak Varma, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Shivam Dube, Axar Patel, Jitesh Sharma (WK), Varun Chakaravarthy, Jasprit Bumrah, Arshdeep Singh, Kuldeep Yadav, Harshit Rana, Sanju Samson (WK), Rinku Singh, Washington Sundar.
Australia: Mitchell Marsh (c), Sean Abbott (games 1-3), Xavier Bartlett, Mahli Beardman (games 3-5), Tim David, Ben Dwarshuis (games 4-5), Nathan Ellis, Josh Hazlewood (games 1-2), Glenn Maxwell (games 3-5), Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Matthew Kuhnemann, Mitchell Owen, Josh Philippe, Tanveer Sangha, Matthew Short, Marcus Stoinis.

Critics always point out that Suryakumar Yadav hasn't consistently scored against big teams in the past few years. AFP FILE PHOTO

India vs Australia in T20Is

	Mats	Ind	Aus	NR
Overall	32	20	11	1
In Australia	12	7	4	1
Last 8 Matches	8	7	1	0

Record in last 12 months

India		Australia
16	Mats	14
14	Won	12
2	Lost	1
0	NR	1
87.5%	Win%	85.7%

Record in bilateral series since 2022

	India	Australia
Series	21	16
Won	18	12
Lost	1	3
Drawn	2	1

CAPTAINCY RECORD

	Won	Lost	NR	Win%
Suryakumar Yadav	25	4	0	86.2%
Mitchell Marsh	25	4	1	83.3

Compiled by Arun Gopalakrishnan

Bumrah an asset in Powerplay, says Surya

CANBERRA, PTI

India captain Suryakumar Yadav on Tuesday said that powerplay overs will be crucial in the five-match T20 International series against Australia beginning here on Wednesday, and pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah's presence will boost his side's chances in that period of the match.

Suryakumar said having Bumrah has always been an asset for his side, especially against Australia's style of aggressive play.

"Yes, it is always a challenge, we have seen how they (Australia) played in the ODI series and also in the T20 World Cup. Powerplay is always important," Suryakumar said in the pre-series press conference.

"You saw in the Asia Cup, he (Bumrah) took the responsibility of bowling 2 overs minimum in the power play, so it is good that he is raising his hand, acting as if he is that guy who will take charge. It is going to be a good challenge definitely against the Aussie team in the powerplay."

The 31-year-old Bumrah is the most experienced player in the Indian T20I squad in terms of playing in Australia, and Suryakumar said his strike bowler knows how to prepare well for a good series.

Jasprit Bumrah. AFP

"The way he (Bumrah) has played his cricket for the last so many years, he has kept himself right on the top, and he knows how to prepare for a good series, he knows how to come and play cricket here.

"I think he has visited this country the most from all the guys, so all of the players have spoken to him, he is very open and very helpful in that. Definitely when he takes the ground it will be a good thing, good to have him in the squad, when we play in Australia." Suryakumar also hinted that all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy, who was ruled out of the third and final ODI due to an injured quadriceps, could be available for the T20I series.

Iyer out of ICU, remains stable

NEW DELHI, PTI: India's ODI vice-captain Shreyas Iyer, who suffered a ruptured spleen and rib cage injury during the third match against Australia, has been moved out of the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of a Sydney hospital and is now in a stable condition, the BCCI said on Tuesday.

Iyer sustained a lower left rib cage injury while attempting a difficult running catch to dismiss Alex Carey off Harshit Rana's bowling. Though he initially walked off the field with assistance from the physio, his condition later deteriorated as his vital parameters dropped, prompting immediate hospitalisation.

Subsequent tests revealed internal bleeding caused by a laceration in the spleen, following which he was admitted to the ICU for close monitoring.

India T20 skipper Suryakumar Yadav said he was glad to know about Iyer's improving health on the eve of the series opener against Australia.

It is understood that BCCI's head of medical services, Dr Dinshaw Pardiwala, in his communication to the board, commended the on-field medical staff for their swift and efficient response, which helped avert a potentially critical situation.

Wrestler Yashita bags gold

MANAMA (BAHRAIN), PTI: Teenage wrestler Yashita dug deep into her reserves of energy to overcome a gritty Kazakh opponent and clinch the girls' 61kg gold on a day when six Indian boxers sailed into the final to assure the country of half-a-dozen medals in the Youth Asian Games here on Tuesday.

In an extremely keenly-contested bout, Yashita, 17, defeated Kazakhstan's Zhaidar Muktar on the basis of the final point scored after the two were tied at 5-all.

Earlier, Yashita had defeated Kyrgyzstan's Akylai Chynybaeva 6-0 in the semi-final. Yashita's top-podium finish took India's tally of medals to 26, including four gold, 10 silver and 12 bronze. The country is placed 11th on the medals tally led by China with a total of 100 medals, including 47 gold.

In boxing, India's 15-year-old Khushi Chand secured a place in the girls' 46kg gold-medal bout by defeating Mongolia's Altanzul Altangadas 5-0. She will meet China's Chen Fang-yu in the title bout on Thursday.

In the girls' 54kg category, Chandrika Pujari beat Kazakhstan's Ramina Makhanova.

Resilient Goa deny Karnataka the victory

Pacer Vidwath claims five as hosts settle with innings honours

VIGNESH BHARADWAJ
SHIVAMOGGA, DHNS

When Vidwath Kaverappa (5/51) picked up Samar Dubhashi for Karnataka's ninth wicket and his fifth, there was a stroll and a few punches in the air at the KSCA Navule Stadium.

On an expectedly sedentary fourth and final day, the game briefly sparked to life when Vidwath sent Arjun Tendulkar (47) back to the pavilion in the second over of the morning.

Soon, Karnataka grabbed three wickets in just 10.2 overs to take the first-innings honours.

After enforcing the follow-on, it left them with 78.2 overs to bowl out Goa again for an outright win, which was the thought in mind while making the trip to Shivamogga and once they picked four seamers with a tinge of grass.

If Goa's second innings was anything to go by, it seemed they had visions of fighting it out and taking home at least a point.

With the surface under covers, the pitch showed no wear and tear of a typical fourth-day wicket.

Abhinav (73 not out) and Manthan Khutkar (55 not out) stemmed the jitters after Suyash Prabhudessai's dismissal (12), batting with flair as they guided Goa to 143/1 in 46 overs and forced Karnataka to shake hands.

It was a very calm end to a slightly chaotic morning, but nothing could dampen the spirits of around 100 fans, who were cheering to the very end as Ranji Trophy cricket had returned to the venue after five long years.

After Vidwath's impressive first-innings outing, Goa did well to avoid being crushed by the weight of 154 runs. Despite following on, Abhinav and Manthan regained Goa's composure by the fourth evening to bring proceedings to a halt as on-field umpires Saurabh Dhote and Anand M Ovalekar flicked the bails.

Karnataka's Vidwath Kaverappa (right) exults after dismissing Goa's Mohit Redkar on the final day of their Ranji Trophy Elite Group B match. DH PHOTO/ KRISHNAKUMAR PS

SCOREBOARD

KARNATAKA (I Innings): 371 all out
Goa (I Innings O/n: 171/6): Manthan Khutkar c Shrijith b Abhilash 9 (17b, 1x4), Suyash Prabhudessai c Shrijith b Vidwath 12 (42b, 1x4), Abhinav Tejrana c Nikin b Vidwath 18 (40b, 3x4), Snehal Kauthankar c Shrijith b Abhilash 10 (15b, 1x4), Lalit Yadav c Yashovardhan b Abhilash 36 (84b, 1x4), Darshan Misal c Nair b Yashovardhan 12 (84b, 1x4), Arjun Tendulkar c Shrijith b Vidwath 47 (122b, 6x4, 1x6), Mohit Redkar c Shrijith b Vidwath 53 (77b, 3x4, 3x6), Samar Dubhashi c Smaran b Vidwath 6, Koushik V b Vyshak 5 (4b, 1x4), Vijesh Prabhudessai (not out) 0 (1b). EXTRAS (B-3, LB-5, NB-1) 9. **TOTAL (all out, 87.2 overs) 217.**
Fall of wickets: 1-9 (Manthan), 2-29 (Suyash), 3-47 (Snehal), 4-51 (Abhinav), 5-100 (Darshan), 6-115 (Lalit), 7-185 (Arjun), 8-212 (Mohit), 9-213 (Samar).
Bowling: Vidwath Kaverappa 23-6-51-5, Abhilash Shetty 22-3-74-3, Yashovardhan Parantap 16-6-18-1, Vyshak Vijaykumar 18.2-2-53-1, Shreyas Gopal 8-2-13-0.
GOA (II Innings): Manthan Khutkar (not out) 55 (135b, 5x4), Suyash Prabhudessai lbw Vyshak 13 (15b, 2x4), Abhinav Tejrana (not out) 73 (126b, 9x4). EXTRAS (LB-2) 2. **TOTAL (for 1 wkt, 46 overs) 143.**
Fall of wicket: 1-20 (Suyash).
Bowling: Vidwath Kaverappa 8-2-12-0, Vyshak Vijaykumar 8-1-33-1, Abhilash Shetty 7-1-20-0, Yashovardhan Parantap 7-2-20-0, Shreyas Gopal 9-1-28-0, Nikin Jose 7-0-28-0.
Result: Match Drawn. Karnataka took the first innings lead. Karnataka: 3 points; Goa: 1 point.
PoM: Karun Nair. **Karnataka's next match:** vs Kerala (Nov 1, Mangalapuram).
Group B brief scores: At Rajkot: Saurashtra: 260 all out in 88.4 overs (Harvik Desai 26, Chirag Jani 82, Ansh Gosai 38, Ravindra Jadeja 36, Parth Bhut 27 n.o; Aryan Pandey 4-31, Kumar Karthikeya 4-84) vs Madhya Pradesh: (O/n: 195/4) 355/9 in 135 overs (Harsh Bawali 32, Yash Dubey 159, Himanshu Mantri 32, Saransh Jain 103 n.o.; Jaydev Unadkat 4-32, Gajjar Sammar 2-26). **Result:** Match Drawn. Madhya Pradesh took first-innings lead. Madhya Pradesh: 3; Saurashtra: 1.
At Chandigarh: Maharashtra: 313 all out & (O/n: 66/0) 359/3 decl in 52 overs (Prithvi Shaw 222, Arshin Kulkarni 31, Siddesh Veer 62, Ruturaj Gaikwad 36 n.o.) vs Chandigarh: 209 & (O/n: 129/1) 313 all out in 94.1 overs (Arjun Azad 168, Manan Vohra 58, Rajangad Bawa 42; Mukesh Choudhary 4-34, Ramakrishan Ghosh 4-71). **Result:** Maharashtra won by 144 runs. Maharashtra: 6; Chandigarh: 0.
At New Chandigarh: Punjab 436 all out in 163.4 overs vs Kerala (O/n 15/1): 371 all out (Ankit Sharma 62, Rohan Kunnummal 43, Sachin Baby 36, Baba Aparajit 51, Ahammed Imran 86, Shoun Roger 27; Ayush Goyal 2-91, Krish Bhagat 4-52, Naman Dhir 2-88). **Result:** Match Drawn. Punjab took the first-innings lead. Punjab: 3; Kerala: 1.

The two batters quickly got into their stride as time ticked on, driving, cutting, flicking a tiring Karnataka attack that was slowly starting to accept its fate.

The batting effort saw them stitch a 123-run partnership in 244 balls and it was just what the doctor ordered to take them to safety with no panic buttons being pressed in the change room.

After a brief shower in the afternoon, Agarwal quickly called his quicks for one final roll of the dice, and then gave his part-timers a go.

Shami makes a statement with a fifer

Mohammed Shami served another reminder to the Indian selectors with a five-wicket haul as Bengal beat Gujarat by 141 runs for their second straight win in the early part of their Ranji Trophy campaign in Kolkata on Tuesday, reports PTI.

With 15 wickets in 68 overs across the first two games, Shami has given a good account of his form and fitness in the premier domestic competition thus far. He last played for India in the Champions Trophy but was not picked for the five Test tour of England.

With five wickets on day four of the game, Shami took his match tally to eight wickets. The player of the match award went to left-arm spinner Shahbaz Ahmed who took six wickets in the first innings to give Bengal a crucial first-innings lead over Gujarat.

The senior pacer said he is "fit" and "ready" for an India comeback.

India bid for 2028 Asian indoor athletics

NEW DELHI, PTI: India has submitted bids to host the 2028 Asian Indoor Athletics Championships, in line with the country's efforts to stage continental and global events in the coming years.

If India succeeds in its bids for the events, it would be the first time the country would be hosting the two continental competitions, including the 2026 Asian Relays. The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) has proposed Bhubaneswar as the host city for the 2028 Asian Indoor Athletics Championships.

"We have submitted the bid for 2028 Asian Indoor Athletics Championships with Bhubaneswar as the host city. There is no other venue in India which can host the event other than the indoor facility at the Kalinga Stadium complex in Bhubaneswar," a top AFI official said.

The state-of-the-art indoor facility at the Kalinga Stadium complex in Bhubaneswar was inaugurated in 2024. It has a 200m running track, a 100m practice track, designated areas for various sports.

Lovlina to skip Boxing WC finals

ADITYA K HALDER
BENGALURU, DHNS

Lovlina Borgohain

Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain won't be participating in next month's World Boxing Cup Finals in Greater Noida as the 28-year-old pugilist will undergo surgery for an unidentified injury.

Saweety Boora has been named her replacement in the 75kg (middleweight) category as elite Indian boxers are currently training for the event at the national camp in Patiala for the event since October.

Lovlina, who qualified for the World Cup finals on world ranking points, has skipped the Patiala camp as well, citing the surgery. A senior official confirmed that the 32-year-old Saweety, who was the world champion in the 80kg category in 2023, was considered for the middleweight division instead. Pooja Rani, who won silver in World Cup Stage II in Kazakhstan, will compete in the 80kg category.

The likes of Nikhat Zareen (51kg) and the newly-crowned World Champions Jaismine Lamboria (57kg) and Minakshi (48 kg) are going to participate as well. In total, 20 Indian boxers (10 women and men each) will be competing in the event at the Shaheed Vijay Singh Pathik Sports Complex from Nov 14.

The men's squad includes Jadumani Singh (50kg), Pawan Bartwal (55kg), Sachin (60kg), Hitesh Gulia (70kg). Gulia also won gold and silver at the Stage I (Brazil) and II respectively of the inaugural tournament earlier this year.

World Boxing Cup medallists will earn up to 300 ranking points, which will help in seeding at next year's Elite World Boxing Continental Championships, 2027 World Boxing Championships, and other major tournaments.

KSCA elections to be held on Nov 30

BENGALURU, DHNS

Following Venkatesh Prasad-led panel's demand that the incumbent administration at the Karnataka State Cricket Association hold elections at the earliest, a release from the association's CoE claimed that the date for the polls -- November 30 -- was "decided in a meeting on October 14 and subsequently reiterated on October 25th meeting."

Prasad's panel member Vinay Mruthyunjaya, a former a treasurer of the association, welcomed the announcement of election date but wondered what prevented the MC from informing the members about the same when the decision was taken on Oct 14.

On the allegations of misinterpretation of the nine-year-clause (which defines the maximum number of years an individual can remain in office), the KSCA insisted that as an institution it didn't have any objection to any eligible person from contesting the elections.

"The statement that we are preventing certain persons from contesting is not true," the release stated. "We want to be a compliant association and our top priority is to only ensure our cricketers are not denied an opportunity in BCCI tournaments.

Our aim is to put the institution above individuals and ensure KSCA does not lose its membership in BCCI. This is our top priority."

While Prasad's panel claims that a person can be an ordinary member of a Managing Committee for nine years and another nine years as an office-bearer, the current office-bearers maintain that whether a person has spent nine years as an ordinary member of an MC and/or as an office-bearer, that individual is ineligible to contest again.

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